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**A Treatise on the Fishery
Laws of the United
Kingdom, Including All
the English Salmon and
Sea Fishery Acts. With
Notes and Explanations**

James Paterson

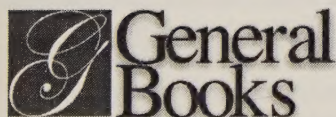


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A TREATISE ON THE FISHERY LAWS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, INCLUDING ALL THE ENGLISH SALMON AND SEA FISHERY ACTS. WITH NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS

PREFACE

SECOND EDITION.

The first edition of this work was published shortly after the passing of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, which formed a new point of departure in the law, having repealed all the former Acts and introduced a uniform close season and more stringent penalties, and having also as a main object the extinction of fixed engines.

That Act was soon found to be very imperfect, and the Act of 1865 was next passed, which created Fishery Districts and Conservators, and also Special Commissioners to decide the many questionable rights then claimed to fixed engines. That Act in turn was found defective, and the Act of 1873 was passed, of which the main object was to confer on Boards of Conservators the power to make bye-laws so as to vary the close season, which the Act of 1861 had made uniform.

The author of this work having been appointed by the Crown the legal member of the Special Commissioners for English Fisheries, was mainly responsible for the decision of the various questions reserved for their adjudication, and for carrying out the first two Acts as far as the rules of law permitted. It was no doubt an important point gained or the future management of the Salmon Fisheries, that so many unsettled claims of right should be got rid of once for all. But in the course of these inquiries it

soon became apparent that the greatest of all the obstacles to the restoration of these fisheries had not yet been grappled with, and compared with which, all that had gone before was merely surveying the threshold of the subject. The obstructions to the passage of salmon caused by dams and weirs of all kinds erected in our best salmon rivers excluded the fish from about three-fourths of their natural breeding-grounds, and though it is very important to secure a fair distribution among the parties interested of such fish as exist, and to protect them till caught, it was much more important to endeavour to multiply tenfold or twentyfold the stock for distribution. It was easy to deal with future dams and weirs. The difficulty was how to deal with those that existed and had already obtained possession of all the best positions, and yet were insurmountable to fish.

Unless salmon can migrate to and fro between the sea and the upper waters of rivers, they are nothing. There had long prevailed an impression that it was now impracticable to secure a fishway without more or less injuring the existing mills and navigation and other interests dependent on the dams in rivers. The subject, however, was closely examined by a Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1869-1870; the mechanism of a watermill, so far as the dam was necessary to it, was taken to pieces, and legal and engineering evidence brought to bear of a searching kind never before made known to Parliament or treated of in print. When the matter was analyzed and simplified, it was seen that there was no conflict whatever between mills and fishways, and both could co-exist with undiminished efficiency; and the mode of carrying out these views was made plain and easy to practical men.

Mr. Dodds, M. P., the chairman of the Select Committee, accordingly prepared a Bill, embodying enactments calculated to remove this last difficulty out of the way of the Salmon Fisheries for the future. But it was found that his Bill was too much in advance of its time, and that this precision of new knowledge had not yet penetrated the legislative mind. Hence, at last only a few of the clauses of that Bill, of secondary value,

have been taken out, and coupled with a large admixture of other material calculated to make a Bill pass, a Bill was, after great delay, and at the eleventh hour, passed, without almost any notice. Having passed, it will be for the courts, for justices of the peace, and for the parties interested, at their leisure, to interpret and apply it. This Act is the third of the recent instalments of legislation on Salmon Fisheries, and raises the number of lengthy sections to 170.

Though the author, when called upon for a second edition of his work, found little to alter in the text upon the general law, notwithstanding considerable discussion of some important points in recent decisions, the subsequent enactments rendered further explanations indispensable. He found that the most useful mode of assisting those desirous of information was to print all the Acts in their order, with copious notes and explanations on all their leading provisions; and that is here done. The Sea Fisheries Act of 1868 is also included. A copious Index to the multifarious details is added, which will render the work, it is hoped, a tolerably complete practical guide to all concerned in the subject.

Goldsmith Building, Temple, September, 1873.

PREFACE.

The imminent decay of the Salmon Fisheries of the United Kingdom lately attracted general attention, and induced the Legislature to pass separate statutes for England, Scotland and Ireland, so as to put the law on a better and permanent footing.

The rivers and streams abound in fish, which are not only equally attractive for purposes of sport and of food, but which have this superiority over game, that from their being in constant communication with the sea, they partake of its illimitable qualities in their powers of reproduction. The riparian owners, however, have exclusive access to most of the waters. Holding the key of the situation, they monopolise the means of capture. As between themselves, they have been distinguished for unneighbourly cupidity. The common law undoubtedly was too easy in its tenets, for it allowed each to catch all the fish he could, by

VIII PREFACE.

whatever means he pleased, provided these were not such as to destroy and annihilate the neighbours' share of the common subject-matter, and even this check there was no efficient machinery for enforcing. Each accordingly sought to do what he liked with his own part of the river, and often selfishly resorted to weirs, dams, and fixed engines, with the view of driving every living inhabitant of the waters into his own net, regardless of the impoverishment of his neighbour. This practice, though in strictness of law illegal, had become too firmly settled to be easily put down by the Courts, or the older statutes. The decay of the fisheries having then become conspicuous, it was necessary for the Legislature to intervene on grounds of public policy, and, with an eye to the benefit of all parties, to restrain the suicidal policy of the riparian owners, making it no longer possible for each to do what seemed good in his own eyes. The Salmon statutes have only one common object, which is more or less imperfectly attained, viz. to secure fair play to the instincts of the fish. All that the fish need is a free run, and if they have this, their numbers will amply suffice for every purpose of pleasure or of business.

The author has viewed the subject, so far as the United Kingdom is concerned, as a whole, and has endeavoured to reduce to some order what has hitherto been proverbial among lawyers for its confusion. The common law of England and Ireland is the same, and their statutory law of poaching fish is also now the same. The other statutes still abound in differences of detail, and Scotland also, in many respects, stands apart; yet in the leading enactments they all agree, and the defects of the one law may often be corrected by a view of the merits of the others.

As Angling is "a license of pleasure rather than of profit," the author has been at some pains to single out and treat separately the chief points of law which bear on that favourite pursuit of contemplative ease.

Goldsmith Buildings, Temple. November, 1863.

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

RIGHTS OF FISHERY VIEWED GENERALLY.

PAGE

Definition of Fishery 1

Sea and Private Streams 2

Private Streams 2

Public Rivers 3

Kinds of Fishery 4

CHAPTER II.

FISHERIES IN THE OPEN SEA.

Definition of Open Sea 5

Fishery, how Regulated 6

Rules as to Whale Fishing 6

Incidents of Fishing in Open Sea D

Nature of Right of Fishery in Open Sea 10

"What may be Fished, and how 10

Convention with United States 11

Convention with France 11

CHAPTER III.

FISHERIES IN TERRITORIAL SEAS AND NAVIGABLE RIVERS.

General Right of Public to Fishery 14

Exclusive Right of Subject in Sea and Public Rivers. 15 How Acquired 17

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS. XIU

PAGE

Right of Crown since Magna Charta to grant Several Fishery in

"('Tiat Fish may be Caught in the Sea 24

Crown's Right to Royal Fish 24

Young Fish other than Salmon 25

Herring, Cod, Ling, c 27

Pilchards 28

Rights of Fishermen in Sea and Public Rivers, as to adjacent Land 28

Damage done while Fishing 31

Fishing, as an Obstruction to Navigation 31

Fishing in Public Navigable Rivers 32

Wears and Fixed Apparatus for Fishing in Rivers 33

Statutes as to Wears 36

Ancient Wears, Evidence as to 39

Wears and Fixed Nets illegal at Common Law 41

Sale of Fish 44

CHAPTER IV.

DIFFERENT KINDS OF FISHERIES IN POINT OF LAW.

Confusion as to Terms 45

State of the Authorities 46

Definition of Several Fishery'- 49

Mode and User of Fishery 50

Free Fishery 51

Distinction between Free and Several Fishery 53

Common of Fishery 54

Different kinds of Common of Piscary 57

Nature of Right and its Assignability 57

Fishery not an Easement 57

Whether Fisheiy will pass as appurtenant to Land 57

Fishery may be Subdivided 59

In Grant of Fishery, what kind is meant 59

Whether Grant of Fishery carries the Soil 60

Result of Authorities 65

Fishery Granted by Statute 66

Lease of Fishei-y 67

Ordinary Lease of Lands including Water 67

Fishery in a Manor 68

CHAPTER V.

RIGHT OF PROPERTY IN FISH, AND LARCENY AND COGNATE OFFENCES AS TO FISH.

PAGE

Right of Property in Fish 7

Fisli in a Trunk or Pond 71

How far Larceny may be Committed 71

Statutory Offences of Poacliing Pish 73

Effect of Enactment 74

Place of Offence 74

Form of Conviction and Indictment 75

"WTietlier Manual Possession of Fish is necessary to the Offence. 76

Poaching Fish not near a Dwelliug-house 76

Several Offences on One Day 77

"Who may Prosecute for Poaching Fish 77

Arresting Fish-Poachers 77

Seizing Fish-Poachers' Implements 79

Abettors of Fish-Poaching 81

Mode of Prosecuting Poachers 81

Procedure before Justices 82

Officers of Ai-my and Navy Poaching Fish 83

Right of Property in Poached Fish 85

Malicious Injuries to Fisheries 87

Destroying Fishponds 88

Poisoning of Waters 89

Other Enactments against Fouling Water 89

Stealing Oysters 90

Oyster Spawti 91

Separation of Oysters from Floating Fish 91

Navigating near Oyster Beds 92

Corporation Property in Oyster Beds 93

Close Season as to Oysters 94

CHAPTER VI.

CIVIL REMEDIES FOR OBSTRUCTION AND INVASION OF FISHERIES.

Owners of Fisheries Clearing River 95

If Quo Warranto lies to try Right to Fishery 96

Abating Obstructions of Fishery 96

PAGE

Distraining Nets of Trespassers 98

Ejectment 100

Remedies by Action 100

Obstructions of Common Fishery 101

Proof of Ancient User 103

Two Competing Grants 106

Opposite Riparian Ovvuei-s 108

Non-user of Fishery 109

Remedies as to Several Fishery 110

Remedy as to Free Fishery 112

Obstructions of Common of Fishery 114

Remedy in Court of Chancery 115

CHAPTER VII.

THE LAWS OF ANGLING.

No Right at Common Law to Angle in another's Waters. 119

Anglers, as Poachers, how Punished 122

Angling in the Daytime 123

When Anglers may be Apprehended 124

Anglers' Rod and Tackle, when Seizable 125

Remedies against Angler Poaching 126

Claim of Right to Angle 127

Claims of Inhabitants of Towns to Angle 128

Right to the Fish Angled 130

Purchase or Lease of Rod Fishing 131

Angling Salmon '. 132

CHAPTER VIII.

LAWS AFFECTING SALMON FISHERIES.

Salmon Laws Generally 135

Poisoning Salmon Rivers 136

Legalized Nuisances which Poison Rivers 138

Stopping Illegal Rights 141

Who may Prosecute 142

Claim of Right to Poison a River 142

Fishing Salmon with Lights, Spears, c 143

Using Fish-roe as Bait 144

X a ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PAGE

Salmon Nets 145

Fixed Engines 146

Fishing Dams 147

Gratings in Artificial Streams 149

Taking Unclean Fish 149

Taking Young of Salmon 150

Disturbing Salmon Spa Tiing	151
Close Times	151
Home Office Varjing Close Time	152
Selling Fish in Close Time	153
Exporting Salmon during Close Time	155
Fixed Engines in Close Time	156
Weekly Close Time	156
Regulations as to Fish-passes	157
Eegulations as to Fishing Wears	159
Central Authority of Home Office	159
Conservators of Salmon Waters	160
Justices Granting Search Warrants	160
Apprehending Offenders	161
Procedm'c and Penalties	161
SCOTLAND. CHAPTER I.	
FISHERIES IN THE SEA OTHER THAN SALMON.	
Open Sea Fisheries	165
Territorial Seas and Navigable Rivers	165
Crown's Riglit to Whales	165
Other Fish than Salmon	165
Right of Public to Fish in Sea	166
To what Extent an Individual may have Exclusive Right.	167
Oysters, Lobsters, Shell Fish at Common Law	167
Grant of White Sea Fishing by Crown	167
Navigation Paramount to Fishing	168
Oyster Fisheries Protected against Theft)y Statute 3 4 Vict. c. 74	168
Mussel Fisheries Protected by Statute 10 11 Vict. c. 92.	169
Herring Fishimics	169
ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS. XVII	
CHAPTER IL rh; iit to salmon generally.	
Right to Salmon in Seas and Rivers	17-
Salmon is inter regalia	172
Fishing Salmon by Net	174
Salmon Fishing must be derived from Crown	174
Mode of Fishing at Common Law in Rivers	176
Common Law as to Salmon, how far Superseded by Statute.	177
Result of Statutes and Common Law as stated by Lord Westbury, L. C	17D
Net and Coble Fishing for Salmon	183
Bei-money Boat Fishing	185
Net Fishing between Opposite Riparian Owners	186
Right of Fisher to use Banks and Shore	187
Use of River Banks	188
Boundaries of Fisheries	188
Remedy between Owners of Fisheries	189

Remedy by Interdict 190

Fishing of Locality Lands 191

Fishing in a Lake 191

CHAPTER III.

SCOTCH SALMON FISHERY ACT, 1862.

Modern Salmon Acts Generally 193

Fishery Districts 194

Fishery Commissioners 194

Annual Close Time for Salmon 195

Weekly Close Time for Salmon 195

Illegal Modes of Fishing 196

Offences as to Salmon 196

Selling Salmon in Close Time 197

Salmon-roe 198

Poisoning Rivers 198

Duties of Fishery Commissioners 199

Fishery District Boards 200

Powers of District Boards 201

Assessments by District Boards 202

Seizure of Forfeited Articles 203

Three or more Poaching Salmon by Night 204

PAGE

Procedure to Recover Penalties 204

Poachers of Salmon 205

Apprehension of Poachers of Salmon 207

Procedure and Penalties for Poaching 208

Enactments as to Procedure 209

CHAPTER IV.

TROUT AND FRESHWATER FISH OTHER THAN SALMON.

Common Law as to Trout Fishing 211

Fishing Trout with Nets 212

Right of Trout Fishing 213

What were Legal Modes of Fishing Trout before 1860. 214

Right of Tenants of Land to Fish Trout 215

A Decision on this Point Questioned 216

Close Time 217

Trespassing to Poach Trout 217

Power to Seize Nets, c. of Poachers 218

Power to Apprehend Poachers 219 . Justices Interested in the same Water 220

Procedure against Poachers of Trout 221

Recovery of Penalties 221

Appeal against Conviction 221

Application of Penalties 222

Limitation of Actions 222

Interpretation of Terms 222

CHAPTER V.

THE LAWS OF ANGLING.

Angling Generally 223

Angling for Salmon 223

Illegal Angling for Salmon 224

Angling in Annual Close Time for Salmon 224

Weekly Close Time as to Salmon 224

Salmon-roe 225

Selling Salmon Angled 225

Title to Trout Fishing 225

Angling for Trout 226

Angling Trout from Highway 227

Trout Angling as regards Salmon 228

Angling as between Opposite Owners of Stream 229

ANAXYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS. XIX CHAPTER VI.

THE TWEED AND SOLWAY FISHERIES.

PAGE

The Tweed Generally 231

Special Statutes as to Tweed 232

Tweed Commissioners and Officers 233

Water Bailiffs 233

Justices, c. interested 234

Annual Close Time 234

Weekly Close Time 235

Having or Selling Fish in Close Time 235

Removal of Boats and Nets in Close Time 236

Fixed Nets, Dams, c 237

Beating the Water 238

Stake and Bag-nets 238

Size of Meshes of Nets 238

Pout-nets or Rake-hooks 239

Wear-shot Net 239

Leisters and Spears 239

Poisoning River 239

Penalty on Fishers when not Entitled 240

Foul or Unseasonable Fish 240

Cleeks 240

Trout Fishers Catching Salmon 241

Destroying Spawn 241

Salmon-roe 241

Three or more Poaching by Night 241

Procedure 242

The Solway 243

Other Local Fisheries 244

IRELAND.

Irish Fisheries Generally	247
Common Law as to Fisheries	248
Fishery Commissioners	248
Fishery Districts	249
Special Fishery Commissioners	251
Bye-Laws of Commissioners	252
PAGE	
Meaning of Terms	252
Funds of District Board	252
Use of Shore by Herring Fishermen	352
Fishing Vessels Registered	254
Sea Nets	254
Sea Fish near "Wears	256
Oysters	257
Stealing Oysters	257
Power to Make Oyster Beds	257
Close Season for Oysters	259
Improvement of Oyster Beds	260
Bait Beds	260
Licence Duty on Engines	260
Scale of Licence Duties	261
Engines Injurious to Fish	262
Licensing Engines not enumerated in Statute	262
Licences for Engines, how obtained	264
Fishing without Licence	264
Fisheries subject to Annual Rate	265
Natural Obstructions in Rivei-s	265
Fishing Wears	265
Fixed Nets	267
Right to Stake and Fixed Nets	268
Bag-nets	268
Boxes and Cribs	269
Free Gaps	269
Otters, Spears, Gaffs	270
Cross Lines	270
Taking Fish in Mill-dams, c	270
Nets during Night in Rivers	271
Fishing by Nightâ Disturbing Spawn	271
Nets near Mill-dams	272
Nets at Mouths of Rivers	272
Nets in Inland Rivers	272
Meshes of Nets for Salmon, Trout, and Freshwater Fish.	273
Spawn of Salmon, Trout, or Eels	273
Unclean Fish	274
Poisoning Rivers	274

Annual Close Time for Salmon 275
 Close Season in Certain Excepted Counties 275
 Fishing Wears in Close Time 276
 ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS. XXI
 I'A! K

Annual Close Time for Trout 27 C
 Close Season for Aiiffliiig '277
 Close Time for Eels 277
 Eel Fishery 277
 Eemoval of Salmon Nets during Close Time 278
 Fishing during Close Time 278
 "Weekly Close Time for Salmon and Trout 279
 Fishing in Annual or Weekly Close Time 279
 Poaching in Private Fishery 280
 Entering Lands to Fish 280
 Obstructing Persons Fisliing Legally 280
 Offenders bound to tell their Names 281
 Ofitenders using Violence 282
 Water Bailiffs 283
 Procedure 285

APPENDIX.

English Salmon Fishery Act, 24 25 Vret. c. 109 289
 Salmon Exportation Act, 26 Vict. c. 10 308
 Scotch Salmon Fisheries Act, 25 26 Vict. c. 97 310
 Scotch Salmon Fisheries Amendment Act, 26 27 Vict. c. 50. 323

TABLE OF ENGLISH AND IRISH CASES CITED.

Abbot of Strata Marcella, case of, 18.
 Aberdeen Arctic Company v. Sutter, 7, 9.
 Adley v. Eeeves, 93.
 Allen V. Donelly, 17, 19, 21, 116, 117, 130.
 Ashworth v. Brown, 117, 130.
 Bagoti;. Orr, 16, 91.
 Ball V. Herbert, 29.
 Bann, Fishery of, 33.
 Battishill v. Kead, 140.
 Bealey v. Shaw, 139.
 Beaufort, Duke of, v. Mayor of Swansea, 104.
 Bauman v. Kinsella, 109.
 Bennett v. Costar, 115.
 Bidder v. Local Board of Croydon, 141.
 Bird V. Higgenson, 57, 59, 131.
 Bland-y. Lipscomb, 57, 115, 130.
 Blundell-y. Catterall, 15, 21, 29.
 Booth V. Clive, 83.
 Botts V. Ackroyd, 84.

- Braham v. Watkiss, 83.
 Breese v. Jerdail, 83.
 Bridge v. Grand Junction Company, 97.
 Bridger v. Illichardson, 76, 91, 92.
 Buubrook v. Goodere, 98.
 Bute v. Grindall, 68.
 Caledonian Railway Company v.
 Colt, 149. Carlyon v. Lovering, 139. Carter v. Murcot, 16. Chad v. Tilsed, 19.
 Charter v. Graeme, 83. Chester Mill Case, 36. Child v. Greenhill, 72, 111, 113.
 Colchester, Mayor of, v. Brooke, 19, 93, 97. Cornwell v. Sanders, 82. Cowlam v.
 Slack, 57. Cox v. Reid, 83.
 Darley v. R. 96. Davies v. Maun, 97. Dawes v. Hawkins, 19. Devonshire, Duke
 of, v. Hodnet, 21, 38. Devonshire, Duke of, v. Smith, 41. Dimes v. Petley, 97.
 Eaton v. Swansea Water Company, 140.
 Embleton v. Brown, 84, 162.
 Embiy v. Owen, 139.
 English v. Burnell, 5Q.
 Evans v. MacLoughlan, 79, 83, 282.
 Evans v. Rees, 104.
 Fennings v. Lord Grenville, 7, 8. Fontleroy v. Aylmer, 111.
 Gateward's case, 56, 115. Gibbs v. Woouiscot, 47, 52. Graham v. Ewart, 68.
 Grand Uiiou Canal Company v.
 Ashby, 67. Gray v. Bond, 31. Grey's case, 70, 71, 72.
 Hamilton v. Marquis of Donegal, 40, 42, 51. Hargrave v. Lord Congleton, 56,
 114. Harmond v. Pearson, 95. Harrison v. Leaper, 137. Haseldine v. Grove, 83.
 Hayes v. Bridges, 57, 58, 61.

ENGLISH AND IRISH CASES CITED.

XXUI

- Haylock v. Spark e, 84.
 Hayward ex p. 83.
 Heddy v. Whcelhouse, 18.
 Hermann v. Stmieschal, 83.
 Herbert v. Lau hhiyn, 100.
 Hipkins v. Birmingham Gas Company, 138.
 Hodgson v. Little, 156.
 Hogarth v. Jackson, 8.
 Holford v. Bauey, 49, 54, 57, 60, 67, 111, 114, 116, 131.
 Holtbrd v. Pritchard, 59, 67, 131.
 Hopkins v. Robinson, 57, 131.
 Horn v. Thornliorough, 83.
 Howell v. Reynolds, 111.
 Hughes v. Buckland, 81, 83.
 Hull, Mayor of, v. Horner, 104.
 Jacklin v. Fitch, 83. James v. Saunders, 84. Jones v. Nichols, 83.
 â v. Taylor, 82.

- â V. Wulianis, 97, 107.
- Kinnersley v. Orpe, 49, 104.
- Lamb v. Newbiggen, 68.
- Lambert i. Strotlior, 112.
- Leary v. Patrick, 84.
- Leatt V. Vno, 82.
- Legg V. Pardoe, 82.
- Leniel v. Harslop, 57.
- Lester v. Barrow, 84.
- Lifford's case, 30.
- Lisle V. Brown, 88.
- Little V. Wingfield, 17, 18, 104, 106, 107.
- Littledale v. Scaith, 8.
- Lloyd V. Jones, 115, 130.
- London, Mayor of, v. Perkins, 116, 130.
- Londres, Alderman de, v. Hasting, 60.
- Lopez V. Andrews, 104.
- Lynn Regis, JVlayor of, v. Taylor, 30, 92. â Mayor of, v. Turner,
- Malcolmson v. O'Dea, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 38, 54, 104. Maldon, Mayor of, i.
- Woolvet, 91. Mallock V. Eastly, 72.
- Marshall v. Nichols, 12.
- â V. Ulleswater Company, 49, 65. Martins v. Upcher, 83. Miner v. Gilmour,
- 138. Jlorden v. Porter, 207. Moulton V. Wilby, 146, 148, 149, 267. Murgatroyd v.
- Robinson, 140.
- Newport Bridge, Re, 153.
- O'Neill V. Allen, 17, 103, 110.: Ordeway v. Ornie, 56. Orford, Mayor of, v.
- Richardson, 17, 19, 112.
- Padwick v. Knight, 29, 92. Paget V. Mills, 60. Parker v. Mitchell, 140. Patrick v.
- Greenway, 116. Payne v. Tliorogood, 9. Pease v. Chayter, 142. Pouexfen v. Crispin,
- 112. Pretty v. Butler, 57. Proser v. Hyde, 83.
- R. V. Alresford, 64, 100.
- â V. Boulton, 83.
- â V. Bradford, 88, 137.
- â V. Carlyon, 69.
- â V. Carradine, 88.
- â V. Cheltenham Commissioners, â V. Corden, 75.
- â V. Cridland, 82.
- â V. Curran, 282.
- â V. Daman, 75, 77.
- â V. Eaton, 83.
- â V. Edwards, 75.
- â V. Ellis, 30, 61, 62, 63, 68, 69.
- â V. Glover, 76.
- â V. Hertfordshire Justices, 83.
- â r. Hodges, 74.

â V. Hunsdon, 72, 76.

â V. Long, 282.

â V. Lovett, 77, 145.

â V. Mallinson, 75.

â V. Marshall, 76.

â V. Mayor of London, 18.

â V. Mejlani, 83.

â V. Ogden, 96.

â V. Old Alresford, 64, 100.

SCOTCH CASES CITED.

K. V. Riobmond Justices, 83.

â V. Rishton, 83.

â V. Eoss, 88.

â V. Scott, 77, 145, 147, 158.

â V. Sleap, 144.

â V. Steer, 72, 76.

â V. Stimpson, 127.

â V. Watts, 95.

â V. Wetwang, 76.

â V. AVoodrow, 144. Reid V. Coker, 83. Reynell v. Cliampernoon, 99. Richardson v. Mayor of Orford, 112. Robinson v. Waddington, 154. Roe V. Ireland, 104. Rogers v. Allen, 17, 21, 57, 59, 91, 103, 131.

Sampson v. Hoddinott, 140.

Scratton v. Bro- Ti, 63.

Seymou- v. Courtenay, 47, 52, 59, 68, 91, 111, 131. Simpson V. Unwin, 152. Skinner v. Chapman, 8. Smith V. Kemp, 47, 52, 60, 111, 113.

â V. Miller, 110.

Jâ V. Willcs, 113. Snape v. Dobbs, 66. Somerset, Duke of, v. Fogwell, 21, 49, 57, 61, 64, 67, 111, 131. Stockport Water Company v.

Potter, 141.

Sutton V. Moody, 86, 111.

Tarry v. Newman, 82. Taylor v. Nesfield, 84. Tinnery v. Fisher, 56. Tyson v. Smith, 92.

Upton V. Dawkins, 72, 113.

Vivian i;. Blake, 17, 113. Vooght V. Winch, 110.

Waddy v. Newton, 100. Ward'i). Cresswell, 101, 115. Ward V. Robins, 140. AVarren v. Matthews, 21, 96. AVeld V. Hornby, 39, 51. Wenman v. Mackenzie, 104. AVickes v. Clutterbuck, 75, 76. AVickham, v. Hawker, 57. Williams v. Adams, 82.

â V. Blackwall, 147.

â V. AVilcox, 36. Wilson V. Mackreth, 114. Wine V. Rider, 112. Wisdom V. Hodgson, 80. Wright V. AVilliams, 139.

York, Mayor of, v. Pilkington, 116, 130. Young V. Hichens, 102.

â V. Higgen, 154. Yoimg Jacob, 9.

TABLE OF SCOTCH OASES CITED.

Abercrombie v. Breadalbane, 190. Aberdeen AVhale Company v.

Sutter, 165. Addison v. Row, 165. Agnew V. Mayor of Stranraer, 167. Arbuthnot v. Scott, 175. Ashburton-y. Mackenzie, 186, 218. Atholl, Duke of, v. Wedderburn, 182, 191.

Bennett v. Hinchly, 210. â v. Jones, 243.

Carnegie v. Brand, 183.

â V. Magistrates of Brechin, 182.

â V. Ross, 182, 183. Chisholme v. Eraser, 176. Colquhoun V. Magistrates of Dumbarton, 182.

â V. Duke of Montrose, 168, 190. Copland's Trustees, 182. Cunningham v. Taylor, 182.

Dalglish; Duke of Atholl, 182. Damie, 198.

SCOTCH CASES CITED.

Dirom v. Littles, 182. Dun, 198.

Easton v. List, 207.

Erskine, Earl, v. Magistrates of

Stirling, 232. Evans v. JMaclanglilan, 208. Ewcu V. Guthrie, 198.

Ferguson-y. Slurcft, 228. Fife V. Banff, 191. â V. Gordon, 182. Forbes v. Earl Kintore, 188.

â V. Leys, 183.

â V. Smith, 182, 188. Frazer v. Duff, 182.

Ganiniell v. Woods and Forests, 172, 173, 174. Gemniill v. Kiadcll, 229. Gordon v. JMoray, 191. Graham v. Dixon, 182. Grant-y. Duke Gordon, 168, 175.

â V. Macwilliam, 178, 182. Gray v. Magistrates of Perth, 188. Gray, Lord, v. Sime, 182, 183. Guthrie v. Dunbar, 174, 188.

Hall V. Whillis, 167.

Hay V. Provost of Perth, 177, 179, 184.

Henderson v. Johnson, 243.

Hoyle V. Maccunn, 187, 188.

Hutchinson. Duudeewhale Company, 165.

Inverness, Magistrates of, v. Duff, 175.

Johnstone v. Gibson Craig, 190. Johnson v. Stott, s, 175.

Kinnoull v. Hunter, 183. Kintore, Earl, v. Forbes, 183, 190.

Lawsonv. Jepp, 210. Leith'u. Leith, 191. Littlejohn v. Stratton, 175.

Maedouald v. Fai-quharson, 192, 216. Macinroy v. Duke of Atholl, 189. Mackenzie v. Davidson, 189.

Mackenzie v. Gilchrist, 190.

â V. Home, 183.

â V. Houston, 182, 190, 191.

â V. Renton, 176.

â V. Rose, 216, 225, 226.

â V. Sutherland, 188.

â V. Syme, 183. Macjdial v. Campbell, 210. Macpherson v. Macpherson, 191. Maitland v. Macclliand, 167. Matthew v. Blair 187. Monzies v. Meazies, 191, 192. Miller, 198.

Muler V. Blair, 188.

Milne v. Smith, 174, 175, 186, 231, 232. Monmusk v. Forbes, 188. Montgomery v. Findlay, 198. â V. Watson, 191.

Munro v. Ross, 183. Murray v. Magistrates of Kirkcudbright, 232.

â V. Earl Selkirk, 182.

Portland, Duke of, v. Gray, 167.

Queensbeny, Duke, v. Annandalc,

Marquis of, 182. Quecnsberry, Duke, v. Stormont, 175.

Ram. say 1?. Kellies, 166, 167.

â V. Roxburgh, Duke, 176, 179. Richardson v. Hay, 191. Richmond, Duke, y. Dempster, 215. Robertson v. Mackenzie 175. Ross V. Duke of Sutherland, 183, 194.

â V. Robertson, 191. Roxburgh, Duke, v. E. Home, 232. Russell, 198.

Scott V. Gillies, 175. Sinclairii" â y. Murray, 190.

â V. Dutiu. s, 191. Somerville, Lord, i'. Smith, 228, 229. Sutlierlaiid, Duke, v. Ross, 174, 175, 176, 211.

Walker v. Jones, 243.

Woods Forests 7;. Maitland, 167.

TABLE OF ENGLISH STATUTES REFERRED TO.

Magna Charta, Hen. IH. c. 20, pp. 20, 35.

2 Hen. VI. c. 15. 1 Eliz. c. 17, p. 25.

1 Geo. I. St. 2, c. 18, p. 26; Â Â 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, p. 27. 48 Geo. in. c. 110, p. 28.

50 Geo. in. c. 108, p. 9. 55 Geo. III. c. 94, p. 28. 1 Geo. IV. c. 103, p. 28. 1 2 Geo. IV. c. 79, p. 28. 5 Geo. IV. c. 64, p. 28.

2 3 Wm. IV. c. 71, pp. 30, 103; Â 2, p. 140.

5 6 Vict. c. 97, Â 2, p. 84.

6 7 Vict. c. 97, pp. 11, 13, 28.

9 10 Vict. c. cccxvi. pp. 26, 44.

10 Vict. c. 17, Â 61, p. 89; Â Â 62, 63, p. 90.

10 11 Vict. c. 91, p. 28.

11 12 Vict. c. 43, Â 31, p. 81; Â Â 9, 14, p. 83.

11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â Â 1, 2, 6, 10, p. 84. 11 12 Vict. c. 63, Â 80, p. 90. 14 15 Vict. c. 26, Â 6, p. 28. 14 15 Vict. c. 56, p. 28.

18 19 Vict. c. 3, p. 11.

18 19 Vict. c. 101, pp. 13, 44; Â 1, p. 94. 18 19 Vict. c. 121, Â Â 23, 24; 20 21 Vict. c. 43, p. 83.

21 22 Vict. c. 69, p. 28.

22 23 Vict. c. 69, pp. 44, 73. 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 24, pp. 71, 109, 123, 125; Â 103, pp. 77, 86, 161; Â 25, pp. 79, 86, 98, 125, 126; Â 26, pp. 91, 92; Â 99, p. 81; Â 120, p. 82; Â Â 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, pp. 82, 124; Â Â 101, 112, 113, 115, 116, p. 83; Â 115, p. 84; Â Â 117, 118, 121, p. 85.

24 25 Vict. c. 97, Â 32, pp. 87, 137; Â 52, p. 31; Â Â 58, 56, 60, 61, p. 89.

24 25 Vict. c. 109 (Salmon Fisheries Act) Â entire, p. 289; Â 1, p. 289; Â 2, p. 289; Â 3, p. 289; Â 4, p. 289; Â 5, p. 136; Â 6, p. 291; Â 7, p. 292; Â 8, pp. 133, 143; Â 9, p. 144; Â 10, p. 144; Â 11, p. 146; Â 12, p. 147; Â 13, p. 149; Â 14, pp. 133, 149; Â 15, pp. 133, 149, 150; Â 16, p. 151; Â 17, pp. 133, 152, 154; Â 18, p. 153; Â 19, pp. 152, 154; Â 20, p. 156; Â 21, pp. 133, 156, 157; Â 22, p. 157; Â 23,

p. 158; Â 24, p. 158; Â 25, p. 158; Â 26, p. 158; Â 27, p. 159; Â 28, p. 159; Â 29, p. 159; Â 30, p. 159; Â 31, p. 160; Â 32, pp. 160, 302; Â 33, p. 302; Â 34, p. 302; Â 35, pp. 134, 142, 161; Â 36, I. 162; Â 37, p. 162.

26 Vict. c. 10 (Salmon Exportation Act), p. 308.

26 27 Vict. c. 125, p. 26.

xxvu

TABLE OF SCOTCH STATUTES REFERRED TO.

Old salmon statutes, p. 178.

44 Geo. III. c. xlv. (Solway Act), Â 9, p. 243; Â Â 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 15, p. 244.

9 Geo. IV. c. 39, Â 11, p. 208; Â Â 9, 12, 13, p. 208; Â 9, p. 209.

3 4 Vict. c. 74; Â Â 1, 2, 3, 4, p. 168.

7 8 Vict. c. 95, Â Â 1, 2, 3, 4, p. 206.

8 9 Vict. c. 26, Â 3, p. 219; Â 4, p. 219.

10 11 Vict. c. 92; Â Â 1, 2, 3, 4, p. 169.

20 21 Vict. c. cxlviii. (Tweed Act), Â Â 10, 17, 18, 36, 37, 79, 80, 81, p. 233; Â Â 38, 39, p. 234; Â Â 48, 49, p. 236; Â Â 50, 61, 52, 53, 54, 5.5, 61, p. 237; Â Â 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, p. 238; Â Â 13, 14, p. 239; Â Â 65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 72, p. 240; Â Â 73, 74, 75, 76, p. 241; Â Â 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 92, 95, 96, 97, 98, p. 242.

22 23 Vict. c. lxx. (Tweed Act), Â 2, p. 232; Â Â 6, 7, 8, p. 235; Â Â 10, 11, p. 236; Â 12, p. 238; Â Â 62, 6.3, 64, p. 239; Â Â 15, 17, p. 240; Â 16, p. 241; Â Â 18, 20, p. 242. 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 1, p. 212; Â 2, p. 217; Â 3, p. 218; Â 4, p. 220; Â 5, p. 221; Â Â 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, p. 222; Â 11, p. 226.

23 24 Vict. c. 92, p. 170.

24 25 Vict. c. 72, p. 170.

25 26 Vict. c. 97 (Scotch Salmon Act) entire, pp. 310â 322; Â Â 4, 5, 6, p. 194; Â 4, p. 232; Â Â 6, 7, 8, 9, p. 194; Â Â 6, 11, p. 224; Â 6, p. 243; Â Â 7, 10, 34, p. 196; Â Â 12, 13, 22, 34, p. 198; Â Â 5, 11, 12, 26, p. 225; Â Â 14, 15, 19, p. 199; Â Â 17, 18, p. 200; Â Â 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, p. 201; Â Â 22, 25, p. 202; Â Â 27, 29, 32, 33, p. 203; Â Â 27, 34, p. 204; Â Â 27, 28, p. 242; Â 28, 29, 30, 32, p. 205; Â Â 12, 34, p. 241; Â 33, pp. 194, 243.

26 27 Vict. c. 50 entire, p. 323; Â 1, p. 199; Â 2, p. 201; Â 3, p. 243.

TABLE OF IRISH STATUTES REFERRED TO.

p. 257; Â Â 32, 33, 34, 36, p. 259 Â 13, p. 260; Â 62, p. 265 Â Â 18, 19, 21, p. 268; Â 106, p. 270; Â Â 75, 76, p. 271; Â 78, p. 272; Â Â 20, 65, 66, 103, p. 273; Â Â 73, 74. 80, p. 274; Â Â 33-35, p. 276; Â Â 31, 69, p. 277; Â Â 36, 77, p. 278; Â 36, p. 279; Â Â 71, 72, p. 280; Â 28, p. 281; Â 87, p. 282; Â Â 82, 88; p. 283; Â Â 83, 84, 85, S6, p. 284.

7 8 Vict. c. 108, Â 7, p. 255; Â Â 5, 6, p. 259; Â g 94, 95, 96, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107, p. 285.

8 9 Vict. c. 108 Â 15, p. 255; Â 16, p. 2.57; Â 19, p. 259; Â Â 20, 21, p. 260; Â 14, p. 262; Â Â 7, 8, p. 266; Â 5, p. 268; Â Â 11, 12, p. 273; Â 10, p. 280.

XXVIII IRISH STATUTES EEFEREED TO.

9 10 Vict. c. 114, Â 1, p. 275; p. 276; Â 34, p. 278; Â Â 35, 36, Â Â 2, 3, p. 276. 46, p. 279; Â 47, p. 285.

11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â Â 6, 17, 23, 26 27 Vict. c. 114 (Irish Sal- p. 250; Â 27, p. 253; Â 42, mon Act), entire, p. 325; Â 29, p. 259; Â Â 8, 10, 13, p. 261; p. 249; Â 27, p. 250; Â Â 14, 1-5, Â 21, p. 262; Â 28, 29, 30, 31, 17, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, p. 264; Â 23, p. 265. 39, 40, 42, p. 251; Â 26, p. 261; 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 1, p. 260; Â Â 8, 13, p. 266; Â 7, p. 266; Â Â 5, 11, p. 249; Â Â 6, 7, 9, 13, Â Â 4, 14, p. 267; Â Â 6, 44, p.

p. 250; Â 1, p. 252; Â 8, p. 253; 268; Â Â 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, p. 269; Â 41, p. 258; Â 7-12, p. 265; Â 24, p. 271; Â 16, p. 272; Â 23, Â Â 14, 15, 16, 17, p. 267; Â 43, p. 277; Â Â 20, 22, 25, p. 279; p. 268; Â Â 39, 40, p. 270; Â 44, Â 18, 280. p. 272; Â 36, p. 274; Â 45,

ERRATA.

Page 20, 13th liue from top, for defendatur read defendantur.

Page 26, 6th line from top, for Â 1 read Â 4.

Page 27, n. 1) add, And see stat. 33 Geo. II. c. 27.

Page 69, 3d line from top, for yet is read yet it is.

Page 215, 5th line from foot, for Inglis, C. J. read Inglis, L. J. C.

A TREATISE

FISHERY LAWS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

EXGLAXR CHAP. I.

RIGHTS OF FISHERY VIEWED GENERALLY.

DEFINITIONâ SEA AND PRIVATE STREAMSâ GENERAL RULESâ PRIVATE STREAMSâ PUBLIC RIVERSâ DIFFERENT KINDS OF FISHERY.

Definition. â A fishery is properly defined as the right of catching fish in the sea, or in a particular stream or water; and it is also frequently used to denote the locality where such right is exercised.

Sea and Private Streams â General Rules. â The sea is 'primd facie open to all the public for the purpose of fishing, and a stream not navigable is ju-imd facie exclusively confined to the use of the owners of the soil subjacent. The water, and all that is in it, is in the former case common to the public to use freely; while in the latter case it is exclusively the i)roperty of one or two individuals, or at least so far thuir property that no other person can take the fish that are found there. Be, tween these extreme limits many qualifi- cations are introduced. In certain parts of the sea itself, and navigable rivers, an individual may prove his right to exclude all other persons from fishing there; while in a private stream the original owner may have granted away the right of fishing therein to another person or other persons, either jointly with himself or exclusively of himself.

Private Streams â General Rules. â The owner of a field in which is a pond is presumed to be also the owner of the pond and all that is in it. He may keep and catch what fish he pleases there, and is exclusively entitled to them. In a private stream or river, the owner of the adjacent land on both sides is also presumed to be the owner of the stream, so far as regards the right of catching all the fish therein. He is not indeed the absolute owner of the water of the stream itself, for he is not entitled to use up the current, or to foul it, or unnecessarily to retard it or alter its plight and volume, for that would be to injure the rights of the riparian owners further down. Nevertheless, as far as the right of fishing, which is one of the uses of running water,

is concerned, he is entire master within his own limits, and can catch as many of the fish as he can find, by whatever means he thinks proper, unless some statute prohibits him, and under the qualifications to be afterwards mentioned. The reason of this right of fishing in a private stream being an exclusive and absolute right is, that as he is the owner of the land on both sides, and also of the land subjacent, no one else can come there without being a trespasser, and thus there is nobody who can prevent him doing what he likes with his own. There is, however, this qualification to the right, even at common law: that inasmuch as most streams run into the sea, and many fish come from the sea upwards into the stream, those proprietors nearest the sea cannot, by engines, apparatus, or other extraordinary means, intercept and monopolize all the fish, some of which would otherwise pass upwards into the waters of the upper proprietors. Each must, to a certain extent, allow his neighbour fair play and equal chances. In this sense, all the owners on the line of a stream have a common interest in the right of fishing those fish which come from the sea; and this common interest arises out of the nature of the thing itself, as in a state of nature a stream is not separated into distinct physical portions having no mutual intercommunication. It will be found that this equality of interest is often disturbed by the erection of weirs and similar encroachments.

Where the land on one side of a private stream belongs to a different owner from that on the other side, the presumption of law is, that the soil of the stream up to the middle belongs to each owner on his own side (and the right of each to fish exclusively in his own half of the stream is one of the rights incidental to his ownership).

Public Rivers. In regard to a public navigable river, the presumption of law is the same as it is in regard to the sea, viz. that the soil or bed belongs to the Crown, but this does not in any way prevent all the subjects from fishing therein, for all have equal rights. Nevertheless, it will be afterwards seen that an individual may acquire an exclusive right of fishery even in a public river, or in part of the sea.

Kinds of Fishery. The law of England is hopelessly confused in regard to the terms which distinguish the different kinds of fishery; and no ingenuity can reconcile the authorities. But, as will be afterwards shown, upon a due regard to first principles and the better authorities, the following definitions of the current terms are those which will be established and here used. There are four descriptions of fishery. A common fishery is that kind of right which all the public have alike to fish in the sea or a navigable river. A several fishery is the right of an individual to fish exclusively in a particular water, and it is not necessarily united with the right to the soil, though originally all owners of the bed of a river or water must have had a several fishery in such water as a constituent part of the right of property, until they parted with it to another. A free fishery is the right of fishing along with other individuals in a water. A common of fishery is the right of a person to fish in waters of which the soil belongs to a different person, and is analogous to a common of turbary or pasture. In reality, a free fishery and a common of fishery scarcely differ, except in the mode in which the right was acquired. These distinctions will be further explained in the sequel.

THE OPEN SEA, WHAT A FISHERY, HOW EXCLUDED INCIDENTS OF SUCH FISHERY A NATURE OF RIGHT OF FISHERY A WHAT MAY BE FISHED,

AND HOWâ CONVENTION WITH UNITED STATESâ CONVENTION WITH FRANCE.

The Open Sea. â In treating of fishery in the sea, a distinction must be made between what is properly called the open sea, and what may be called the territorial sea, or *mare clausum*, i. e. the sea which is in a certain sense the property of the nation to which the adjacent continent or island belongs, such sea being vested in the Crown, or in the sovereign authority as representing the nation. With regard to the limit from the shore to which this right of property in the territorial sea extends, it seems to be agreed by jurists that this limit is three miles. And the same limit is fixed upon in the convention between Great Britain and France which regulates the use of the fisheries between their respective shores; the fishermen of each county having the exclusive right of fishing M'thin three miles from l Yattel, 128; Selden, 182; Martens, 161.

their own shore undisturbed "by those of the other country. The same limit is uniformly adopted by the Coiu't of Admiralty in administering the law with respect to the rules of the sea in British waters.

Fishery, hoiv regulaud. â The open sea thus defined, i. c. that part of the sea beyond three miles from the continent, is equally available to all comers from every part of the world; whereas the subjects of one country are not entitled to fish within the territorial sea of another country without a licence from the Crown or sovereign authority. And such is the rule adopted by English law.

When disputes of a private character arise in the open sea between the fishermen of different countries, the solution of these disputes is regulated by the law of nature, or rather by what has been called custom, for some custom, founded more or less on the law of nature, of necessity springs up at a particular place, adapted to the circumstances, and this custom is held to be binding as between British and foreign subjects. This rule is adopted as the only fair and impartial course, for as each fisherman would naturally act according to the law of his own country, which would be entitled to as much and no more weight than that of the other countries from which his competitors come, a custom which belongs to the law of neither, but which is peculiar to the locality, and by which all may agree to be bound without jealousy, becomes a substitutionary or secondary law, binding on all who act under it. Such a custom, however, in order to be binding, must be clearly l Selden, *Mar. Cl. B. II. c. 21*; Hale, *De Jur. Mar. c. 4*.

understood by all those who frecjueiit the locality in question.

The origin and necessity of this rule were thus explained by Chambre, J.":â " There must of necessity be a custom in these things to govern the subjects of England, as well amongst themselves as in their intercourse with the subjects of other countries. The usage of Greenland is held to be obligatory, not only as between British subjects, but as between them and all other nations. I remember the first case upon that usage which was tried before Lord Mansfield, who was clear that every person was bound by it, and said that, were it not for such a custom, there must be a sort of warfare perpetually subsisting between the adventurers; and he held it strongly binding from the circumstance of its extending to different nations. The same necessity must prevail in the South Seas, although the fishery has not been so long in use, in order to regulate our intercourse with the French, Americans, and others who resort thither. A few

persons may, by compact among themselves, for a particular reason renounce any advantages, and subject themselves to any disadvantages that they please; and this would bind all those who assent to it, but not those who are no parties to the compact."

Such local customs accordingly have often been accepted and acted on by the Courts of this country. Thus, at the Clallipagos Islands, opposite South America, it was a custom that whoever first struck a whale with a droug, or loose harpoon, was entitled to receive half 1 *Aberdeen Arctic Company v. Sutter*, 4 Macq. Ai C.

of the produce from the party who ultimately killed it. At the Greenland Whale Fishery the ruling custom was held to be, that the first harpooner who struck the fish was entitled to the property of the fish only if he continued to hold the whale by the line attached to the harpoon; but if his line broke, and a subsequent harpooner from another ship finished the capture by obtaining possession, the latter was entitled, for it was then a loose fish. In a later case the custom was proved to be subject to the qualification, that to entitle the first harpooner who struck the fish to the property, he must have kept the fish entangled in his lines until it was captured; but he was not divested of this contingent right to the property by a volunteer coming up and officiously striking the fish, thereby causing it to struggle and break from the first line. Such local customs require to be proved, and they will be found to vary from time to time; for as the origin of the custom is referable solely to convenience and common consent, this must obviously vary according as the experience of the parties directly interested enlarges. All that is required is, that the custom be clearly understood and generally adopted by those who resort to the locality.

Where a custom has prevailed in a locality, some difficulty is sometimes felt in ascertaining within what area or geographical limits the custom applies. Thus, it is difficult to define the area of the Northern Whale

Fenningsy. L. Grenville, 1 Taunt. 248.

2 *Lilthdale v. Scaith*, 1 Taunt. 243 n.

3 *Hogarth v. Jackson*, M. M. 58; 2 C. P. 595.

Skinner v. Cluqnnan, M. M. 59 Å.

Fishery; and in a recent case, where it was disputed whether Cumberland Inlet was part of this area, the Court held that it was, and that it was therefore incumbent on those to prove the fact, who alleged that the custom of fast and loose which was well established at the Northern Whale Fishery either never existed at Cumberland Inlet, or was displaced by some other custom which was well understood there.

Incidents of Fulling in O'pen Sea. It seems that in ancient times a licence to go to the whale fishery was exacted by officers of the Admiralty, but a statute was passed declaring such exactions illegal, and subjecting the party so exacting to a fine.

With regard to seamen binding themselves to go on board whaling ships, a summary power of enforcing the contract was given to justices of the peace by a statute of 1810. But that statute is now substantially repealed by the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts, which put whaling ships on the same footing as any other ships.

It was once held that fishing boats were exempted from the usual incident of seizure in time of war, out of respect to the industrious order of fishermen employed in them; but in principle this exception has been held untenable, and they are treated like

other vessels. And so important was deemed the trade, that fishermen engaged in the fisheries of the kingdom were by statute specially exempted from impressment.

' *Aberdeen Arctic Company v, Sutter*, 4 Macq. H. L. C. 2 2 3 Ed. VI. c. 6. 3 50 Geo. III. c. 108.

â *Young Jacob*, 1 Rob. Ad. 20. 5 *Payne v. Thorogood*, 1 M. S. 223.

Nature of Right of Fishery in Open Sea. â It is of little consequence to discuss the exact nature or correct legal denomination of the right of fishing in the open sea. The utmost that can be done is to give it a name, merely for purposes of classification. It has been generally called a common fishery, or a public common of fishery, â which means merely that all can fish in common in the open sea; all have equal rights; one is as good as another, and no one is entitled to exclude another. This seems to be the definition which the words common fishery ought properly to receive. A common of fishery is another right which will be explained hereafter, and differs from a common fishery in precisely the same manner as a highway, which is often called a public easement of way, difi'ers from a private easement of way.

What may he Fished, and Hoio. â With regard to fishing in the open sea, there is no limit imposed by the common law or international law either as to the description of fish that may be caught or the means of catching them. The whole contents of the ocean are open to the ingenuity of the fishermen. All that comes to their net is their own, and when brought home there are now none of the somewhat frivolous restrictions on their sale wliich once prevailed, and fishermen are treated like other merchants at open markets. It is only when disputes occur with other fishermen in the open sea that this absolute right admits of qualification, for in that case the rules of fair play and the authority of any local custom, as above described, must govern such disputes. As regards each fisherman, when the rights of others are not directly interfered with, he can fish where and how he pleases.

It is true that statutes, more or less ancient, have passed from time to time regulating some matters relating to particular fisheries in the open sea. The chief object of this legislation was the supposed necessity of giving encouragement to such fisheries, and the ex-pedients resorted to were bounties and privileges to those who engaged in them, at the expense of the State. Thus, numerous statutes were passed in favour of the Southern Whale Fishery, the Greenland Whale Fishery, the North Sea and Iceland Fisheries; but nearly all these Acts have been repealed or have expired by effluxion of time, since new views of legislation have gradually become predominant, and artificial stimulants given to trade are discountenanced. It is therefore unnecessary further to notice them, or to notice any other statutes affecting the open sea fisheries, except so far as the statutes affecting the territorial sea fisheries may extend to them; and the subject will be most conveniently treated under the head of territorial sea fisheries.

Convention with United States. â With regard to the fisheries on the coast of North America, it may be merely noticed that a convention was carried into effect between the United States and Her Britannic IMajesty under the statute 18 19 V. c. 3. The details, which refer to the North American coasts, are of an interest too remote from our immediate purpose to require further notice.

Convention ivith France. â A stat. G 7 V. c. 79, em- bodied a convention between Great Britain and France as to the mutual rights of their respective subjects in the

interjacent seas when engaged in the fisheries. Regulations are laid down as to the time, place, and mode of fishing. The subjects of each country are entitled to fish exclusively within three miles from their own shore. The Board of Trade may make bye-laws, a copy of which is to be deposited with the clerk of the peace, the collectors of customs, and at the coast-guard stations adjacent. The coast-guard officers are to enforce the provisions. Every person assaulting or obstructing any person authorized to enforce the Act, may be convicted and fined by any justice of the peace in 5*l.* or imprisonment for twenty-one days. The justices of the peace of the nearest county to the place where the offence was committed, or of the place to which the offender is brought, have jurisdiction to award penalties against British subjects, and also against French subjects committing offences within the limits of the British fishery, i. e. three miles from low-water mark; and where a French subject commits an offence beyond the British limits, he may be brought into the nearest English port, where he is required to make depositions before a justice, a copy of which is to be sent to the British consular agent at the French port. Where the breach of the rules and bye-laws by a French subject within British limits causes damage to a British subject, a justice of the peace may award compensation (sect. 14). The remedy under this statute is exclusive of all other remedies competent at law.

1 *Marshall v. Nichols*, 18 Q. B. 882.

This French convention was revised in 1867, and considerable alterations made, all of which tended towards abolishing the former restrictions on sea fishing.

The Sea Fisheries Act, 1868 (31 & 32 V. c. 45; see post, p. 462), accordingly repealed the Act 67 V. c. 79, while re-enacting most of the sections, and it incorporated the new convention. The opportunity was taken to repeal all the old Acts, which embodied man)' confused enactments as to meshes of nets, close season, sale of fish, and young sea fish. This Act (which extends to Scotland and Ireland) does not affect salmon, but makes the fishing of all other sea fish practically free. One or two qualifications exist as to seine fishing in Cornwall (s. 68), and as to interference between drift-net and trawl-net fishing. (See Convention, s. 5, pp. 495 & 502.) A slight alteration is made in the short close season as to oysters (see post, p. 496); but the Irish oyster fisheries are excepted from the Act, and left to be dealt with under the Irish Fishery Acts.

General Right of Public to Fishery. The right to fish in the British or territorial seas, and in all public navigable rivers in England, belongs *prima facie* to all the public of the United Kingdom. As regards the soil beneath the sea and navigable rivers, this is *prima facie* vested in the Crown, and the right of fishing was also originally vested in the Crown, but has long since ceased to be so, except in an imperial or titular sense, i. e., in so far only as the Crown is the representative of the public, and the Crown's right does not in any way qualify or restrict the absolute right of the public to fish within the limits. The Crown has now no more right to exclude the public from fishing there than the owner of the soil of a highway has to exclude the public from walking upon or using that highway.

"Many of the king's rights," as Bayley, J. observes, "are to a certain extent for the benefit of his subjects, and that is the case as to the sea, in which all his subjects have the right of navigation and of fishing, and it is so in highways along which all

his subjects have the right of passage, and the king can make no modern grants in derogation of those rights."

The subjects of a foreign state have not the same right to fish in the territorial seas as native subjects, but require a licence from the Crown, as already stated.

Exclusive Right of Subject in Sea and in Public Rivers. As regards the right of the subjects of the United Kingdom to fish in the territorial seas and all navigable rivers, the rule is, that *prima facie* every subject is absolutely entitled to fish there. But though this is the general rule, it is nevertheless competent for an individual subject to establish his exclusive right to fish in arms of the sea and navigable rivers; in other words, to exclude the public. The *onus prohandi* is, however, always upon such individual to prove affirmatively this exclusive right.

"The right of fishing in the sea," says Hale, C. J. "and the creeks and arms thereof, is originally lodged in the crown, in like manner as the right of fishing in a private or inland river is originally lodged in the 1 *Blundell v. Catterall*, 5 B. Aid. 304.

2 See ante, p. 6.

De Jur. Mar. p. 1, c. 4.

owner thereof. But although the king is the owner, and, as a consequent of his propriety, hath the primary right of fishing in the sea or creeks and arms thereof, yet all the king's subjects in England have regularly a liberty of fishing in the sea and the creeks and arms thereof as a public common of piscary, and may not, without injury to their right, be restrained of it, unless in such places, creeks, or navigable rivers where the king or some particular subject hath gained a propriety exclusive of that common liberty, either by the king's charter or grant, or by custom and usage or prescription." So Lord Mansfield also says, "In navigable rivers the proprietors of the land on each side have not the fishery, but it is common. It is *prima facie* in the king, and is public. If any one claims it exclusively, he must show a right. If he can show a right by prescription, he may then exercise an exclusive right, though the presumption is against him unless he can prove such a prescriptive right. Here it is claimed and found; it is therefore consistent with all the cases that he may have an exclusive privilege of fishing, although it be in an arm of the sea." Yates, J., added, "What is otherwise common may, by prescription, be appropriated. Moreover the case of the river Banne (Davis 55) was well decided, and it appears by it that the Crown may grant a several fishery in a navigable river where the sea flows and reflows, or in an arm of the sea."

Carters. Murcot, 4 Burr. 216.

See also the point assumed in Lord Fitzwalter's case, 1 Mod. 106; 3 Keb. 242; *Bagot v. Orr*, 2 B. P. 479; *Mayor of Orford v.*

Holus acquired. As to the origin of several fisheries in the sea, Hale thus explains it: "Although the king hath *prima facie* this right in the arms and creeks of the sea *communi jure* and in common presumption, yet a subject may have such a right. And this he may have two ways. 1. By the king's charter and grant; and this is without question. The king may grant fishing within a creek of the sea, or in some known precinct that hath known bounds, though within the main sea. 2. The second right is that which is acquired or acquirable to a subject by custom or prescription. A subject may have by prescription the interest of fishing in an arm of the sea, in a creek or port of the sea, or in a certain precinct or extent lying within the sea." After giving

" precedents touching such rights of fishing in the sea, and arms and creeks thereof, belonging by usage to subjects, the most whereof appear to be by reason of the property of the very water and soil wherein the fishing is, and some of them even within the ports of the sea," he adds, "Whereby it is admitted though *in jure* and *in facto* an arm of the sea be in point of propriety the king's, and *prima facie* it is common for every subject to fish there, yet a subject may have by usage a several fishing there, exclusive of that common liberty which otherwise of common right belongs to all the king's subjects."

This right of excluding the public from the common

Ricliardson, 2 H. Bl. 182; Rogers v. Allen, 1 Camp. 309; Vivian v. Blake, 11 East, 2G3; O'Neill v. Allen, 9 Ir. C. L. Rep. 132; Allen v. Donnelly, 5 Ir. Ch. Rep. 229; Little v. Wakefield, 8 Ir. C. L. Rep. 279; 11 Ib. 63; Malcolmson v. O'Dea, 9 H. L. Cas. De Jur. Ular. c. 5.

fisheries of the sea and navigable rivers is thus based on a grant, actual or supposed, by the Crown, the right of the Crown to such fisheries being said to have been originally part of the prerogative of the Crown. Whatever may have been the origin of this right, it is too late to dispute it, as the proposition has been assumed in so many cases. Not only is it competent for an individual to establish this exclusive right to fish in the arms of the sea and navigable rivers, but it is some evidence to warrant a presumption of a legal grant that the party has exercised the right unquestioned for a space of thirty years and upwards.-

The right of fishing in a navigable river or the sea is thus a franchise originally granted by the Crown. A well-known distinction exists between such as upon forfeiture may exist in the Crown, and therefore may be capable of regrant, and such as cannot exist in the Crown, but only in a grantee from the Crown, and therefore become actually extinct upon forfeiture. A warren, park, fair, market with toll, are instances of the former; these the Crown may hold as a subject may, but would not have them generally by its prerogative. The franchises of waif, estray, wreck, are instances of the latter, which, having been granted out in their particular limits by the Crown, and the grant being forfeited, merge in the Crown's general prerogative right, and do not any longer exist as separate franchises. 1 Com. Dig. Prerog. D. 50; 2 Rol. Ab. 170, L 20; Dav. 56.

2 latt v. Wingfield, 11 Ir. Co. L. Rep. 63; 23 Wm. IV. c. 71, Â 1. 2 Case of the Abbot of Strata Mercella, 9, Rep. 24 a; Heddtj

V. Wheelhouse, Cro. Eliz. 501; R. v. Mayor of London, 1 Show. 230.

has not been clearly decided to which of these classes the franchise of several fishery in the sea belongs.

There is a ground on which it has sometimes been said that an individual may acquire an exclusive right of fishing in the arms of the sea or navigable rivers viz. *in* *virtu* of custom or usage the foundation of which is some supposed ancient agreement between an individual and inhabitants of the district, whereby the latter, for some supposed consideration, abandoned on behalf of the public their common law rights to the individual owner. It is, however, difficult to see how this ground can now be sustained, for it is obvious that no agreement of any number of local inhabitants can ever bind the public; and it is well settled that, as regards the analogous public right

of a highway, the maxim "once a highway always a highway" applies, and no proof of nonuser is allowed to disprove the existence of a highway.

The right of an exclusive fishery in the sea is generally coupled with the exclusive ownership of the shore between high and low water mark, which it is well settled may exist in the subject as a grantee of the Crown, either in connexion with the adjacent land or separately therefrom. But though a subject has an exclusive property in the soil of the shore, it does not follow that he has an exclusive right of fishery there, for 1 Mayor of Colchester v. Brooke, 7 Q. B. 339.

2 Co. Litt. 113, a. b.; Chad v. Tilsed, 5 Moore, 185; Mayor of Orford V. Richardson, i T. R. 439; Co. Litt. Â 169, 170; Lib. Intrat. i39; Plowd. Case of Mines.

3 Per Brady, L. C. in Allen v. Donnelly, 5 Jr. Cli. Kep. 2-14. Dawes. Hawkins, 8 C. B. N. S. 848.

the two riglits are separable. He may possess one or both or neither, and in general it will be a question of construction of the ancient grants under which he claims, explained by the user subsequent to their date, what is the measure of his right.

Riglit of the Cronm since Magna Charta to grant Several Fishery in the Sea. â Though it is no longer an open question whether the Crown could make a valid grant to a private individual of a several fishery in the sea or a navigable river, yet it has been doubted whether the Crown could do so after Magna Charta. The great charter of Hen. III. (1217) c. 20, says, "Nulla riparia de cetero defendatur nisi ilia quas fuerint in defenso tempore Henrici regis avi nostri per eadem loca et eosdem terminos sicut esse consueverunt tempore suo." "No banks shall be defended from henceforth but such as were in defence in the time of King Henry our grandfather, by the same places and the same bounds as they were wont to be in his time." Of this head of the Charter, Coke says, "That is, that no owner of the banks shall so appropriate or keep the rivers several to him to defend or bar others, either to have passage or fish there, otherwise than they were used in the reign of Hen. II. This statute, says the Mirror, is out of use, for several rivers have been appropriated and put in defence which used to be common to fish in and use in the time of Hen. II." The above passage has been generally construed as restricting the right of the Crown to exclude the public in future from their common law right of fishing in tlic sea and navigable rivers. And it 1 2 lust. 30.

is much more natural so to construe it than to assume as has "been hinted by a learned judge, that "it was levelled rather against the acts of the subjects, who from ownersliip of tlie adjacent lands or otherwise sought to assert rights over the rivers, than to amount to a restriction of any right or prerogative of the Crown." Many dicta support the construction that the Crown's right was restricted by the above clause in Iagna. Charta.

The difficulty has arisen chiefly in cases where a grant of the Crown exists subsequent to Magna Charta, but there is nothing to show whether it is a new grant or a continuation of some grant which may have existed prior to Magna Charta. AVherever evidence is given of the user of a several fishery for a long period of time, as for two centuries, "it is not too much to presume," as Hayes, J. well said in Malcolmson v. O'Dca, "after the lapse of all that time, and after all that was done during a long period, that the Crown had in it what it undertook to grant, and that the subject of

the grant was vested in the Crown as parcel of its ancient inheritance rather than as a bare trust for the public; this latter suggestion conveying, as it does, not only the imputation of having asserted a falsehood, but also the 1 Per Hayes, *J. Malcolhson v. O'Dea*, 14 Ir. C. L. (not yet reported).

2 Per B. nyley, *J. Duke of Somerset v. Fogicell*, 5 B. C. 884; 2 Bl. Com. 39; *Hale's De Jure Maris*, 18 c.; dictum in *Roijers v. Allen*, 1 Camp. 268; *Holt, C. J. Warren v. Matheus*, 1 Salk. 357; 6 Mod. 73; *Bushe, C. J. Duke of Devonshire v. Hodnct*, 1 Hnds. and Br. 331; *Brady, L. C. in Allen v. Donclhj*, 5 Ir. Ch. R. 244; the tenor of *Blun-dell V. Cattrall*, o B. Å Aid. 268; the majority of the Irish judges in *Malcolhson v. O'Dea*; assumed by *Willes, J. and House of Lords* in the last case, 9 L. T. N. S. 93. imputation of a gross breach of trust on the part of the Crown and its advisers."

The result seems to be that which was well expressed in the same case by O'Brien, J. " Since *Magna Charta* the Crown could not lawfully abridge the right of the public to fish in any tidal and navigable part of a public river, nor create de novo a several and exclusive fishery in any such part which had not, previous to *Magna Charta*, been appropriated for that purpose, and from the right of fishing in which the public had not before that time been excluded; although if such several fishery had been created previous to *Magna Charta* it might be subsequently granted by the Crown. Indeed, the contrary doctrine would be attended with very serious results. If a several and exclusive fishery in a tidal navigable river could be created de novo by the Crown at any time after *Magna Charta*, why should not the Crown have the same power now? It is true, as a general rule, that the grant of a several fishery after *Magna Charta*, together with clear and satisfactory proof of subsequent use and enjoyment of that fishery under the grant, are grounds for presuming that the Crown was entitled to make such grant, and was then seised of such several fishery, and that accordingly such several fishery had existed before *Magna Charta*."

The view that a grant subsequent to *Magna Charta* is good evidence of a grant prior to *Magna Charta* has been confirmed on a more recent occasion by the House 1 Per Hayes, *J. Malcolhson v. O'Dea*, 14 Ir. C. L.

Malcolhson v. O'Dea, 14 Ir. C. L.

a *McDcolmsmi v. O'Dea*, 9 H. L. Gas.; 9 L. T. N. S. 93.

of Lords,-which adopted the opinion of *Willes, J.* who says, "That a several right of fishery in a public navigable river may lawfully exist is clear. The soil of navigable tidal rivers, so far as the tide flows and reflows, is *prima facie* in the Crown, and the right of fishery *prima facie* in the public. But for *Magna Charta*, the Crown could by its prerogative exclude the public from such *prima facie* right, and grant the exclusive right of fishery to a private individual, either together with or distinct from the soil. And the Great Charter left untouched all fisheries which were made several to the exclusion of the public by act of the Crown not later than the reign of Henry II. If evidence be given of long enjoyment of a fishery to the exclusion of others, of such a character as to establish that it has been dealt with as of right as a distinct and separate property, and there is nothing to show that its origin was modern, the result is not that you say this is a usurpation, for it is not traced back to the time of Henry II. but that you presume that the fishery, being reasonably shown to have been dealt with

as property, must have become such in due course of law, and therefore must have been created before legal memory."

The precise meaning of this chapter of *Magna Charta* was a good deal discussed in the recent case in Ireland already referred to, in the course of which some of the preceding opinions of learned judges were given, and which arose in this way. The plaintiff brought an action for breaking and entering his several fishery in the river Shannon, and the defendant set up as a defence *Malcolms v. O'Dea*, 1-i Ir. C. L. R.

that the river was a navigable river, and the public had a right to fish there. The plaintiff put in evidence a patent of Queen Elizabeth, purporting to grant the several fishery in question; and the defendant contended, among other things, that the sovereign since *Magna Charta* had no power, by patent or otherwise, to create a several fishery in a navigable river. It was held in the Court of the Irish Exchequer Chamber that the grant by Elizabeth, and user under it, were no evidence of a errant before *Magna Charta*. But the House of Lords reversed this judgment, and held that the fact of the Crown dealing with such a right in the days of Elizabeth v. "Sis 2Jrimd facie evidence that the right had originated in a legal manner; that is, had been exercised before the date of *Magna Charta*.

What Fish may he caught in the Sea. At common law any one of the public may catch in the sea and navigable rivers every kind of fish or inhabitant of the main without any restriction or qualification; and where an individual in the manner before mentioned has acquired an exclusive or several right of fishery in these places he also may do the same. But there is an exception at common law, and confirmed by statute, with regard to what are called royal fish. Certain statutes, more or less ancient, also imposed restrictions as regards young fish; but these are now nearly all repealed, and the chief restriction now in force applies to salmon, which will be treated of separately."

Crown's Right to Royal Fish. At common law, the

See *Malcolms v. O'Dea*, 9 L. T. N. S. 93; 9 H. L. Cas. 2 See post, Chap. VIII.

Crown's right to the royal fish caught in the territorial seas was recognised as a franchise. The right was confirmed by statute, for 17 Ed. II. st. 1 (a. d. 1321), enacts that the king shall have wreck of the sea throughout the realm, whales and sturgeons taken in the sea or elsewhere within the realm, except in certain places privileged by the king. Hale includes the porpoise as a royal fish, and also great fish that come under no known denomination; but he seems to refer to what was the law before the above statute. Certain customs also once prevailed as to dividing the whale, and giving the head to the king and the tail to the queen. It is to be observed that it is only whales and sturgeons caught within the realm which so belong to the Crown; in other words, within the limit of the territorial seas; and hence, if the whales are caught in the open sea, as in the Greenland Fisheries, they belong not to the Crown, but to the first taker, according to the rules or customs in force in those localities.

This franchise of the Crown as regards whales and sturgeons may be conveyed to the subject, who may accordingly establish his right to the royal fish by grant or by prescription. By prescription he may have the right either in gross, or as appurtenant to an honour, manor, or hundred.

Youny Fish other than Salmon. â The statute 1 Eliz. c. 17 imposed restrictions on the taking and killing of young fish and spawn, including salmon. That was a temporary Act, which was finally made perpetual by 1 Pl. Com. 315; Staun. Pi-crog. c. 11; Bract. 3, 3, 5; Britt. 26 b.

2 Dc Jur. Mar. c. 7. Sfc ante, p. 7.

Hale, Do. lur. Mar. v. 7.

3 Cli. I. c. 4, Â 1. But the Salmon Fisheries Act, 1861, 24 25 Yict. c. 109, Sched., after repealing the statute of 1 Eliz. C.17, so far only as regards salmon, in the next sentence repealed the 3 Ch. I. c. 4, Â 1, which was the only enactment which kept 1 Eliz. alive and made it perpetual. Hence the sole prop of the statute 1 Eliz. c. 17 was thereby taken away; and though this may have been partly due to inadvertency, yet the result is that no part of it is any longer in force; for though the Statute Law Revision Act, 26 27 Vict. c. 125, seemed to treat the Act of 1 Eliz. c. 17 as still unrepealed as regards other fish than salmon, the Statute Revision Committee (after the first edition of this work, pointing out the circumstances) have treated 1 Eliz. c. 17 as repealed in toto, and omitted it altogether in the revised edition of the statutes published in 1870. All the other statutes, which were very numerous, and imposed or continued restrictions on the catching of young sea fish as well as young river fish, have been repealed by the Salmon Fisheries Act, 1861, and the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868. The result therefore seems to be that there is now no restriction in force as to catching young sea fish, and the only restrictions as to river trout, char, and eel are to be found in the Salmon Fisheries Acts relating specifically to these three kinds of river fish, the reference to which will be found in the Index. There may, however, stiu be some outstanding restrictions as to river fish contained in one or two local Fishery Acts not yet repealed or not mentioned in the Salmon Fishery Act of 1801, and in any case of doubt this point should first be ascertained.

Herriiifj, Cod, Ling, 'c. â The older statutes contained various enactments as to several sea fish by name, such as herring, mackerel, cod, and ling, both as to tlic mesh of net used in fishing for such sea fish, and as to the close time during which their capture was pro-hilnted. All the restrictions, however, as to the catching of herring, both as to time and size of mesh of the nets used, have been abolished by the Sea Fisheries Act, 18G8, and the same remark applies to all other sea fish round the English and Welsh coast. The only qualification now existing is as to the interference caused between drift-net fishing and trawl-net fishing, as to which the French convention contains some specific enactments, but which are mainly calculated only to secure fair play between the fishermen. (See post, pp. 495â 498.) There is also still some restriction as to Scotch herring fisheries left untouched by the Sea Fisheries Act, owing to separate statutes being passed for Scotland as to herring, and which are not entirely repealed as regards Scotland. (See post, p. 508; also 30 31 Vict. c. 53.)

Oysters are subject to a separate consideration, beino-more or less part of the soil, and from the earliest times specially mentioned and protected by enactments suited to their nature. They still remain separately treated, being subject to the Larceny Act and the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868. (See post, pp. 90â 94.)

Sea Fish ivithia Salmon Fishery Districts. â Though, however, there is now practically no restriction Avliat-ever on fishing in the sea for all kinds of fish, whether old or

young fish, other than salmon, a power is given to salmon fishery boards to control to a small extent by means of bye-laws, sea fishing within fishery districts if prejudicial to salmon fisheries. (See 36 37 Vict. c. 71, s. 39, sub-sect. 11.) Until, however, such bye-laws shall be passed, the law will remain as above stated.

Though weirs and fixed nets have long been used for catching sea fish on the sea-coast in various parts of England and Wales, these will be found to be generally illegal; though, owing to nobody having interfered with them or having felt aggrieved by them, they have not been brought to the test of any judicial decision. There is no special mode of deciding the legality of these fixed engines, as the jurisdiction of the English Fishery Commissioners was confined to engines for catching salmon. See post, p. 385.)

Pilchards. The pilchard fishery carried on in the bay of St. Ives, in Cornwall, is in its minutest details regulated by the statute 45 Vict. c. vii., which repealed a prior statute on the same subject. All the older Acts on the subject of pilchards have been repealed by the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868. This last Act contains only one section (s. 68) specially applicable to pilchard fishing, and it also prohibits drift and trawl-nets interfering with seine fishing on the Cornish coast. See post, p. 490.)

This seems the only kind of sea fish as to which special legislation is now retained, and as the mode of carrying on this fishery is somewhat complicated, and requires the co-operation of a large body of fishermen, it would be impracticable to secure the fishermen against constant molestation without a special code of laws being provided for it, as is done for the bay of St. Ives with great care by the above local statute of 45 Vict. c. vii.

Rights of Fishermen in Sea and Public Rivers as to adjacent Land. Though the public have a right to fish in the sea and navigable rivers, they have no right to make use of the adjoining land for the purposes of their fishery, in the way of fixing their nets by stakes, drying their nets, drawing them ashore, or otherwise. Such a right would be inconsistent with the nature of permanent private property. In some places, however, a custom has been held good according to an ancient case in the Yearbooks, by which the fishermen of certain localities were entitled to dig the soil to place stakes for drying their nets. The opinions of the judges in that case as regards the general right are loose, and would almost warrant the right as incident to a public fishery generally. But Hale treats that case as one of local custom for the fishermen of Kent only. Indeed, as there is no right of towage on the banks of navigable rivers incident to navigation, which is a much higher right than that of a public fishery, it would follow that there is no similar implied right of using the land in furtherance of a fishery. And a person who has a mere common of fishery cannot cut the grass growing at the edge of the banks." Nevertheless, the custom has been held good in the case already mentioned of the fishermen of Kent, and in a similar case where fishermen of a certain vill were held entitled to dry their nets on a particular close; *1 Per Holroyd, J. in Blundell v. Carter*, 5 B. Ald. 299.

"Yearbook, 8 Ed. IV. 19.

3 De Port. Mar. 80.

See also, *per Holroyd, J. in Blundell v. Carter*, 5 B. Ald. 296.

5 Ball v. Herbert, 3 T. K. 253.

6 See also *Blundell v. Cattcrau*, 5 B. Aid. 295.

7 Yearbook, 13 Hen. VIII. 15 b.

8 *Supra*, Bro. Abr. Customs pi. 46.

9 *Ye; rbook*, Tr. 15 Ed. IV. f. 29 A. pi. 7; *Blundell v. Cattcrau*, 5 B. Aid. 295; *Padickk v. Knight*, 7 Exch. 861.

and ill another case to dig gravel on the shore for ballast. In cases of grants to an individual, it is often a question of construction whether a right to use the banks was impliedly granted, and this depends on whether it was necessary to the exercise of the fishery that such banks should be used. If rights of this kind have been exercised for thirty years in case of a common, or twenty in case of an easement, this user will be evidence of a grant.

Thus, the lessees of a fishery in the navigable river Derwent brought an action on the case against the lord of the manor, for disturbing them in the right of drawing nets to land on the river banks. The lands of the defendant had been conveyed by the owner of the fishery in 1774, without any special reservation as to the right of landing nets. The plaintiffs had, however, for thirty years and upwards been in the practice of so using the banks. The court held that it was for a jury to presume from the evidence of enjoyment a grant of the right to land nets to the owner of the fishery by some owner of the close since 1776. Dallas, C. J. said: " A mere lapse of time would not of itsek raise against the owner the presumption of a grant. When it does, the inference is also drawn from accompanying facts; and here, where there is no direct evidence whether or not the owner of the land had any knowledge of what passed, the inference to be drawn must in a peculiar degree depend on the nature of the 1 Mayor of Lynn Regis v. Taylor, 3 Lev. 160.

2 See *R. V. Ellis*, 1 M. S. 666. See also, *Co. Litt.* 59 h; *Liffordes case*, 11 Rep. 52; 1 Wms. Saund. 323 n (6); *Shep. Touch.* 89.

3 2 3 Win. IV. c. 71.

accompanying facts; and the presumption in favour of a gi-ant will be more or less probable as it may be more or less probable that those facts could not have existed without the consent of the owner of the land. The circumstances proved in the present case were sufficient to leave to a jury as circumstances from which the knowledge of the owner, and his acquiescence on the supposition of a preceding grant, might fairly be presumed."

Damage done while Fishing. â Where a person hondjide exercising his right of fishery does damage to adjoining property, he is expressly exempted from punishment under the Malicious Injuries Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 97. For, by sect. 52, it is enacted that " nothing in that act contained shall extend to any case where the party acted under a fair and reasonable supposition that he had a right to do the act complained of, nor to any trespass not being wilful and malicious committed in hunting, fishing, or in the pursuit of game; but every such trespass shall be punishable in the same manner as if this act had not been passed." It is true that the party may sometimes be liable in a civil action, but if he acts hond fide he cannot be punished as for a criminal offence in a summary way by justices of the peace.

Fishing as an Ohstrudion to Navigation. â The right of fishery in the sea and navigable rivers is subordinate to the right of navigation, and where both are incompatible

the fishermen must give way to the navigation of vessels.- Each party must, however, use his right so as not to interfere with the other; and hence, if there 1 Gray v. Bond, 2 B. B. 677. Auuu. 1 Ciimpb. 517 ii.

is ample room for a navigating vessel to pass, it ought to do so, Avithout interference with the station of the fishing vessels. In the sea no collision is likely to occur; but in navigable rivers it may be often necessary for navigating vessels to interfere with the fishing vessels. Where the rights of both parties are incompatible, the above rules must be observed; the navigator is entitled to pass at all hazards; but he must do the least possible injury to the fisherman, for he is in the exercise of a lawful right, though it is to the above extent a subordinate one.

Fishing in Piiblic Navigable Rivers. â The right of the public to fish in public navigable rivers is put on the same footing as the right to fish in the territorial sea, and the creeks and arms thereof. None of the authorities seems to define what is a public navigable river, though, 2rrimd facie, it would seem to be generally regulated by the test whether the tide ebbs and flows. Hale observes that an arm of the sea is where the sea flows and re-flows. Lord Mansfield observed, "How does it appear that this is a navigable river? The flowing and re-flowing of the tide does not make it so, for there are many places into which the tide flows that are not navigable rivers, and the place in question may be a creek in one's private estate." But this was said in reference to an attempted indictment for not repairing a creek where the tide used to flow and reflow.

It can scarcely be doubted that there are, or may be, places where the tide does not flow and reflow, and yet

De Jur. Mar. p. 1, c. 4.

2 Mayor of Lynn V. Turner, Cow). 86; Loftt. 556.

are navigable rivers. In such a case the law seems to be, that, though the river may be navigable, and thereby a highway for the Queen's subjects as far as navigation is concerned, yet as regards the right of the public to fish there, that is bounded by the limit of the flow of the tide. This seems to follow from the authorities.

Wears and Fixed Apparatus for Fishing in Riccrs. â The right to make use of the shore is, as has been seen, not an incident of a right of fishing in the sea, or a public navigable river, for the shore beyond high-water mark is private property, and sometimes the foreshore is so also. Nor, on the other hand, would the owner of the shore be entitled to fix any apparatus to his land, stretching into the sea, so as thereby to facilitate and enlarge the right of fishing which he has as one of th, e public. If he were to do so, this would be a nuisance

Hale (De Jui-e Maris, c. 2, p. 8) sa3-s: "For as the common highways in the hind are for the common hind passage, so these kind of rivers, whether fresh or salt, that bear boats or bai'ges, are highways by water; and, as the highlways by laud are called altoe vice rgicce, so those public rivers for iiblic passage are called fluvii regales, and liaut streams Ic roy; uot in reference to the propriety of the river, but to the public use; all things of public safety and convenience being in a special manner under the king's care, supervision, and protection. And, therefore, the report in Sir John Davies of the Piscary of the Bann, mistakes the reason of those books that call them streams Ic roy, as if they were so called in respect of propriety, as 19 Ass. 6, Dy. 11; for they are called so, because they are of public use, and under the king's special care

and protection, whether the soil be his or not." In the case of the Fishery of the Bann, Dav. 57, it is said: "Every navigable river, so high as the sea ebbs and flows in it, is a royal river, and the fishery of it is a royal fishery, and belongs to the king by his prerogative; the reason for which the king hath an interest in such navigable river so high as the sea flows and ebbs in it is, because such river participates of the nature of the sea, and is said to be a branch of the sea so far as it flows."

and an obstruction to navigation, and also to other fishermen, who, if they found the apparatus prevented them exercising their own public rights of fishery, might abate it. If, however, the owner of the shore, as frequently happens, has a several fishery in the sea or mouth of a river, there is nothing to prevent him making use of the shore in this manner, provided only he does not interfere with the navigation. It is seldom, however, that any structure or permanent apparatus is attached to the sea shore, where the sea is open, though a practice has existed from the most ancient times of erecting weirs in navigable and other rivers, the object of which was to facilitate the catching of fish.

The right at common law of a riparian owner, who is owner of the several fishery in a navigable river and the bed of the river, to erect a weir, by which is meant a fixed structure in the bed of the river, the object of which is, either by means of an apparatus which there catches them, or by impeding their progress, to prevent all or nearly all the fish from passing upwards to the fisheries of the upper owners, is left somewhat obscure in the authorities. The obstruction, so far as it hinders the navigation, may be said to be clearly a nuisance, and as the interests of navigation are paramount, this effect ought first to be considered; but so far as it affects only the fisheries of the other owners of the river, there is also ground for saying it is illegal at least a cause of action at common law. Such a doctrine seems to be assumed in several cases. The Crown, however, seems, in ancient times, not only to have granted a several fishery to an individual in navigable rivers, but also to have granted to the subject the right to erect a weir, and this was found so prejudicial that Magna Charta contained an express clause on the subject. The effect of that statute on the existing law is stated by Hale.

1 Hale (De Jur. Mar. c. 5) says: "Though the king hath *prima facie* the right in the arms and creeks of the sea, *comitatu jure*, and in common presumption, yet a subject may have such a right. And this he may have two ways: 1. By the king's charter or grant, and this is without question. 2. The second right is that which is acquired or acquirable to a subject by custom or prescription." After referring to a case, he proceeds: "Upon which record these things are observable: 1. That a subject may by prescription have a weir in the sea, and consequently have an interest below the low-water mark, for probably weirs be such. 2. That yet, if it be a nuisance to the passage of ships, it may be abated. In many considerable arms of the sea that were navigable rivers, and flowed and reflowed with salt water, divers persons had weirs and local fishing sluices. It is true that by the statute of Magna Charta, c. 23, 'omnes *kidelli deponantur decetero penitus per Thamisiā et Medwayā per totam Angliā nisi per coastas maris*,' 'All weirs from henceforth shall be utterly put down by Thames and Medway, and through all England, except by the sea-coast.' And this statute was seconded with others that were more effectual, viz. 25 Ed. III. c. 3; 1 Hen.

IV. c. 12; 12 Ed. IV. c. 7. And by force of these statutes, wears that were prejudicial to the passage of vessels were to be pulled down, and accordingly it was done in many places. But that did no way disaffirm the propriety, but only remove the annoyance, which, as before is shown, was not to be allowed in an inland river, if it be a common passage. The exception of wears upon the sea-coasts, and likewise frequent examples, some whereof are before mentioned, make it appear that there might be such private interests, not only in point of liberty, but in point of propriety, on the sea-coast, and below the low-water mark, for such were regularly all wears. But as by the statutes 25 Ed. III. c. 4; 45 Ed. III. c. 2; 1 Hen. IV. c. 11, and other statutes, the erecting of new wears and enhancing of old is provided against in navigable rivers; and by other statutes particular provision is made against wears new or old erected on particular posts; so, by the statute 3 Jas. I. c. 12, all new wears erected upon the sea-shore, or in any haven, harbour, creek, or within five miles of the mouth of any haven or creek, are prohibited under a penalty. But in all these statutes, though they prohibit the thing, yet they do admit that there may be such an interest lodged in a subject, not only in navigable rivers, but even in the ports of the sea

Statutes as to Wears. â Coke, in reference to this clause of Magna Charta, says: "Kidelli is a proper word for open Mears, whereby fish are caught, and it appeareth by Glanvil that this purpresture was forbidden by the common law, purpresture meaning the encroaching or making several to oneself that which ought to be common to many." The "kidelli" did not mean such wears as might obstruct the navigation. Whether, therefore, wears are illegal or not at common law, they may still be lawfully maintained, and their legality is undoubted, if they are of ancient origin.

The right to maintain a wear in a public navigable river came in question in a case in 1838, as to the river Severn. A wear existed on that river between Worcester and Shrewsbury which was claimed by the plaintiff, and the defendant threw it down as a nuisance, on the ground that it obstructed the navigation. This trespass was the cause of action. The plaintiff at the trial gave evidence of the antiquity of the wear, beginning with Doomsday itself, contiguous to the shore, though below the low-water mark, whereby a subject may not only have a liberty, but also a right or propriety of soil. But yet this that I have said must be taken with this allay, which I have in part premised:â 1. That this interest or right in the subject may be so used as it may not occasion a common annoyance to passage of ships or boats; for that is prohibited by the common law, and these several statutes before mentioned, â viz. erecting new wears, enhancing old, fixing of pikes or stakes and the like, in order to fishing; for the just privilege that is acquired to the subject, either by patent or prescription, must not prejudice the jus publicum â wherewith public rivers or arms of the sea are affected for public use. 2. That the fishing that a subject hath in this or any other private or public river or creek, fresh or salt, is subject to the laws for the conservation of fish and fry, which are many."

2 Inst. 2 Chester Mill Case, 10 Eep. 137 b.

8 Williams v. Wilcox, 8 A. E. 314, book, and contended that, whatever be the power of the Crown in modern times, there was a right in the Crown before Magna Charta, to erect or grant to a subject the right to erect a wear, even though it might obstruct the navigation. The main question, therefore, was, as to whether the right of

the Crown, even before Magna Charta, to erect weirs was subject to the paramount right of the public to have freedom of navigation. The Court inclined to hold that, at common law, the power of the Crown, even before Magna Charta, was subordinate to the right of the subject to free navigation, and that the Crown could not by any grant derogate from this public right of navigation, and that such grants must give way whenever the interests of navigation required it. The Court, however, also held that the passage in the Great Charter as to Idm did not apply to weirs which obstruct navigation, but only to open weirs for catching fish. That that statute, therefore, left the law as it stood before, and weirs would have been illegal altogether, but for a subsequent statute of 25 Ed. III. c. 4, which directed the destruction of all weirs which had been set up in the time of Edward I. and subsequently. This statute, the Court held, was a compromise of existing interests illegally acquired, and impliedly legalized all weirs made before that time, though, in strictness, they were illegal at common law. They were not only protected against the specific measures mentioned in that act, but rendered absolutely legal. Hence, it follows, that if a weir in a public navigable river be shown to be as ancient as the statute 25 Ed. III. it is legal.

It sometimes happens that the documentary evidence of Crown grants does not proceed back so far as Magna Charta; nevertheless, if there is clear evidence of user back for a certain period, and evidence of a several fishery existing in the Crown at the furthest point, this will be presumptive evidence that the fishery was originally granted before Magna Charta. Thus, when the Duke of Devonshire brought an action of trespass for breaking his several fishery in the Blackwater, in the county of Cork, he produced a patent of James I. which granted to his predecessors the soil and bottom of the river which was a navigable river, and enjoyment under the patent was shown. The Court held that this was evidence that the Crown was seized in fee of the soil and bottom and of the several fishery at the time of the making of the patent. Bushe, C. J. observed: "It is urged that there can be no grant of a several fishery in a navigable river since Magna Charta, but that position is not correct; such a fishery, indeed, cannot since that time be created, but, if it has existed before, it may be granted now, and non constat but that James the First was seized of a several fishery at the time of his grant, which would have passed by his patent." So, with respect to the several fishery in the river Shannon, at Limerick, it was held that the existence of a grant of Elizabeth (there being no antecedent evidence), coupled with subsequent user, was good evidence of a grant by the Crown before Magna Charta."

1 *D. of Devonshire v. Idm*, 1 H. Br. 332.

2 *Malcolms v. O'Dea*, 9 H. L. Cas.; see ante, pp. 21, 22.

In another case¹ in 1806, the plaintiff sued the defendant for damaging his right of fishery in the river Liffey by wrongfully continuing a weir up (1) in across the river lower down, by which salmon and other fish were prevented from coming to the plaintiff's fisheries and spawning there, &c. The facts proved were, that the defendant was entitled, according to the evidence of title he produced, to maintain a weir at the spot in question, but this weir had been made of brushwood, whereas he had lately converted it into a stone weir of solid masonry. When the brushwood weir existed the salmon could pass through it, but after the stone weir was substituted they could not do so, except occasionally at high flood. Lord Ellenborough, C. J. said: "The erection

of weirs across rivers was reprobated in the earliest periods of our law, and they were considered as public nuisances. Magna Charta and subsequent acts so treated them, and forbade the erection of new ones, and the enhancing, straitening, or enlarging of those which had aforetime existed. I remember that the stells erected in the river Eden by the late Lord Lonsdale and the Corporation of Carlisle, whereby all the fish were stopped in their passage up the river, were pronounced in this Court to be illegal and a public nuisance. Though twenty years' acquiescence may bind parties whose private rights only are affected, yet the public have an interest in the suppression of public nuisances, though of longer standing." Judgment was therefore given for the defendant.

1 Wcki V. Ilornhj, 7 Eist, 195.

In an Irish case the point was raised directly. The Marquis of Donegal, who was seised of the sole and several fishery in Loughneagh and the river Bann, brought an action against Lady Hamilton, who was a lower proprietor on the Bann, for keeping divers cuts, weirs, and traps across the river, by means of which the trout, salmon, and other fish which would have come from the sea, were prevented from coming into the plaintiff's fishery. Both parties held under grants from the Crown, the grant to the plaintiff being the prior grant. The question was elaborately argued several times in the Irish Courts, and ultimately before the Irish House of Lords, and judgment was given for the plaintiff.

1 Hamilton v. M. of Dooiegal, 3 Eidg. P. C. 267.

Fitzgibbon, L. C. in an elaborate judgment, says: "Here it is to be considered what are the respective rights of the proprietors of these fisheries, and what is the injury which the plaintiff complains of as done to his rights. And as to the first, it is clear that the plaintiff, as proprietor of the upper fishery, has a right to the full possession of the water, the element of his fishery, in the same state, plight, and condition in which he enjoyed it at the time when the corporation under whom the defendant derives obtained their grant from the Crown. He has a right to a free passage for fish from the sea into his fishery; and he has a right to catch as many fish as he can catch, by his industry and art, which find their way into his fishery. It is clear that the defendant has the same rights as proprietress of the lower fishery. She has a right to the same full possession of the water for a free passage for fish from the sea into her fishery; and she has a right abstractedly to catch every fish which finds its way into her fishery, which she can lay hold of by her art or by her industry. But in the exercise of this right she cannot alter the state, plight, or condition of the water of the plaintiff's fishery from the state, plight, and condition in which he enjoyed it at the time when the corporation, under whom she derives, obtained their grant, to the injury of the plaintiff's fishery. Nor can she stop or obstruct the passage of fish from the sea into the plaintiff's fishery in any manner not essentially necessary to enable her to exercise her right of catching fish in their passage up the river.

Another illegal obstruction to fisheries was the practice of attaching nets to the posts on river banks, by day and night, across rivers, which destroyed the brood and fry of fish. An ancient statute, so far back as 1423, prohibited this practice; but that statute has been repealed by the Salmon Fisheries Act, 1861, though the restriction is renewed by sect. 11 of the latter Act. The practice, therefore, so far as other fish than

salmon are concerned, rests on the common law, and it seems to be illegal at common law on the same ground as weirs are. It is to be borne in mind also that wherever there is a peculiar protection to salmon, all fish of the same size have generally some benefit from it indirectly.

Weirs and Fixed Nets illegal at Common Law. — In no case, either in England, Ireland, or Scotland, has the point been distinctly raised, whether the erecting of a weir or other fixed apparatus in a river, and which is

This, then, being in my judgment a fair statement of the rights of the parties, plaintiff and defendant, it remains only to be considered what the injury is of which the plaintiff complains as the ground of this action. The injury stated is, that by means of four cuts, weirs, and traps, kept and maintained upon the rocks in the defendant's fishery, divers large quantities of salmon and trout and other fish, which otherwise would, during the time aforesaid, have come from the sea and that part of the river Bann which lies below the plaintiff's fishery, into it, were obstructed and hindered from coming into it, by reason whereof the plaintiff's fishery is prejudiced and damaged and lessened in value. The verdict finds that the fish were obstructed and the rapidity of the current in each of the openings between the cuts or traps was such as to prevent, to obstruct, and hinder as many fish from going from the sea into the plaintiff's fishery as formerly. If the obstructions alter the course of the element, I have no hesitation in saying that that would maintain an action." See also *Duke of Devonshire v. Smith*, Ale. Nap. 442. 12 Hen.-VI. c. 15.

not objectionable as obstructing the navigation, but which obstructs the fish from passing upwards, is a ground of action at common law to a riparian owner further up the stream. In Scotland, as will be seen, the common law has long been merged in the ancient statutes which govern the subject. The nearest case is the Irish case already referred to, where an upper proprietor was held to have a good cause of action against a lower proprietor for constructing a weir which had the effect of obstructing the fish. But in that case the jury found, as a fact, which was relied on by the Lord Chancellor, that the weir altered the current of the water so as to prevent the passage of the fish. Probably all weirs must, in the same sense, necessarily alter the current of the water, and therefore an action would be sustainable. But on the other ground also, namely, that of obstruction of the fish, a weir seems on principle to be a good cause of action to other riparian owners. So far as salmon are concerned, the question is now practically provided for by the Salmon Fisheries Act; but as regards other fish, and where the Salmon Act does not apply, the question may still arise, and therefore is of some importance, seeing that there may be weirs which do not substantially alter the current of the river, and in that respect stand on the same footing as fixed nets.

That both weirs and fixed nets, and all other apparatus which prevent fish passing to and fro, are illegal at common law, and form a good ground of action, seems to follow on principle. A fishery is merely one of the

Hamilton v. M. of Donajal, 3 Kidg. P. C. 267.

natural uses of the water to which all riparian owners are entitled. Other uses of water are the use of it to water cattle, to drive a mill, for household purposes, &c.; and it seems to be a principle of the common law that each is entitled to a moderate and not an excessive user. If any one riparian owner abstract the water to such an extent

that he substantially alters the plight and volume, thereby injuring riparian owners further down the stream, it is well established that he is liable to an action at the suit of the latter. That is a case of excessive user, which can only injure those towards whom the current flows, and not those from whom it has already flowed, and who had previously had their use of the water. But a fishery is in its nature enjoyable wherever the fish have free passage. The right of a riparian owner may be injured by the acts of other riparian owners, both above and below him, but more frequently by those beneath him, seeing that fish are in some way connected with and come from the sea. If, therefore, one riparian owner fix a net or erect a weir which entirely obstructs the fish, he necessarily deprives the upper riparian owners from deriving from the water one of the uses to which they are entitled. Though one riparian owner may, by fishing by net or rod at all hours, and by means of servants and assistants, almost use up the fish as effectually as by keeping fixed nets, this kind of user could not properly be a cause of action, just as one owner who has a large number of cattle would not be liable to an action at the suit of another who has no cattle, and so takes no use of the water. But it is otherwise where a total obstruction occurs. Hence, even independently of any statute, any fixed apparatus in a river or stream which prevents the fish going up to the other riparian owners, is a good cause of action at common law, as it deprives him of one of the natural riparian rights.

Sale of Fish. Many ancient statutes were passed for the purpose of protecting the markets for fish against foreigners. Now all fish imported into Great Britain and Ireland are free from Customs' duty.

Billingsgate is a free and open market for the wholesale and retail sale of all sorts of fish. It is regulated chiefly by a local Act, which recites many public Acts which were passed with reference to it, and it is now only subject, like other markets, to local bye-laws. Formerly a toll of 2s. per cargo was levied on fishing-boats passing the Nore, but that is now abolished.

M8 19 Vict. c. 101. 29 10 Vict. cccxlv 3 22 23 Vict. c. 69.

Confusion as to Terms. In the sea and navigable rivers the soil is in general vested in the Crown, and the public has merely a right of fishery there, or an individual may have the exclusive right of fishing in certain localities. In such a case it is not very material to consider the nature of the right.

But in private streams and waters it is necessary to distinguish between the different kinds of right which may exist as regards the fishery, several phrases being current in the books and reports, such as a common fishery, a free fishery, a several fishery, a fishery in gross, and a common fishery. These phrases are not very clearly defined and distinguished from each other. Judges, commentators, and reporters, indeed, differ so essentially as to some of these, that no human intelligence can perhaps now reconcile them.

State of the Authorities as to Definition of Terms. The chief difficulty consists in precisely distinguishing the phrases "a free fishery" and "a several fishery." The other phrases seem capable of a fixed meaning.

Coke says, "A man may prescribe to have *sepa-ralteri piscaria* in such a water, and the owner shall not fish there, but if he claim to have *communiam piscarie* or *liberam inscariam*, the owner of the soil shall fish there; all this has been resolved."

Again, "If one be seised of a river, and he grant a several fishery "'in the same and make livery of seisin secundum formam chartce, the soil does not pass, nor the water, for the grantor may take water there, and if the river become dry he may take the benefit of the soil, because a particular right only passed to the grantee, and the livery being secundum formam chartce, cannot enlarge the grant. And if a man grant aquam suam, the soil shall not pass, but the piscary within the water shall." Other authorities are less clear, 1 Co. Litt. 122 a.

2 Co. Litt. 4 h.

3 Hale (De. Jur. Mar. c. 1): " One man may have the river, and others the soil adjacent, or one man may have the river and soil thereof, and another the free or several fishing in that river."

Again: " Fi. shery may be of two kinds ordinarily, viz. the fishing with the net, which may be either as a liberty without the soil, or as a liberty by reason of and concomitance with the soil or interest or propriety of it; or, otherwise, it is a local fishing that ariseth by or from the propriety of the soil; such are gurgites, wcares, fishing-places.

Hargravc, in a note to Co. Litt. 122a, comments on the contrast between Coke and Blackstoue's descriptions *bracliirc*, *strachia*?, c. which are the very soil itself, *ami so* frequently agreed in our hooks."â Harg. Tr. 18.

In the Yearbook, 17 Ed. IV. 6 pi. 5, Brian, C. J. says: " There is a; eat difference between a several and a free fisher ", for no man can liave a several fishery unless it be in his own soil, but I may grant a free fishery to twenty persons in my own pool."

Holt, C. J. observes *Smithv. Kemp*, 2 Salk. 6-37): " There are three sorts of fisheries: 1. Several fishery; and there, he who had the fishery was owner of the soil, and therefore it is a good plea in an action brought by him that it is *librum tencinentum*. 2. Free fishery, which is where the right of fishing is gi-anted to the gi-antee, and such gi'antee hath a property in the fish, and may bring a possessory action for them without making any title. 3. Common piscary; and this was to be resembled to the case of other common, and he disallowed the authority of 1 Inst. 122." Again *Gibbs v. Woolliscot*, 3 Salk. 291), Holt, C. J. says: "A man may have a free fishery in his own soil, as, for instance, he may have a river in his manor, and another may have a riglit of fishing there with him."

Lord Mansfiel, C. J. says *Seymour v. Courtenay*, 5 Burr. 2816): "This could not be a free fishery because no one possessed a co-extensive right-with the plaintiff", and there could be no pretence for calling it a common of piscary. Consequently it was a several fisherj'." " To constitute a several fisheiy it is requisite that the party claiming it should so far have the right of fishing, independent of all others, as that no person should have a co-extensive right with him in the subject claimed."â Ibid.

Blackstone (2 Bl. Com. 39) says: " A free fisheiy or exclusive right of fishing in a public river is also a royal franchise. This differs from a several fishery, because he that has a several fisheiy must also be or at least derive his right from the owner of the soil, which in a free fishery is not recipiisite. It diflters also from a common of piscarij' before mentioned, in that the free fi. shery is an exclusive right, the common of piscaiy is not so; and, therefore, in a free fisher-, a man has a property in the fish before they arc caught, in a common of inscai, not till afterwards. Some, indeed,

have considered a free fishery not as a royal franchise, but merely as a private grant of a liberty to fish in the several fishery of the grantor. But to consider such right as originally a flower of the prerogative till restrained by

The words within brackets were not in the earlier editions.

of the terms used, and says that, "according to Coke, ownership of the soil is not necessarily included in a several fishery, and that common of fishery and free fishery are the same thing." And in referring to cases which seem to favour the opposite view, he says, "At the utmost, the cases cited only prove that a several piscary is presumed to comprehend the soil till the contrary appears, which is perfectly consistent with Coke's position that they may be in different persons, and indeed appears to us the true doctrine on the subject. As to a free fishery, though for the sake of distinction it might be more convenient to appropriate free fishery to the franchise of fishing in public rivers by derivation from the Crown, and though in other countries it may be so considered, yet from the language of our books it seems as if our law practice had extended this kind of fishery to all streams, whether private or public, neither the register nor other books professing any discrimination." In a recent case the doctrine of Coke seems to have been adopted as regards a several fishery. An elaborate discussion on the subject of what is meant by a "several fishery" was entertained in a late case, by the Court of Exchequer Chamber,

Magna Charta, and derived by royal grant previous to the reign of Richard I. to such as now claim it by prescription, and to distinguish it as we have done from a several and a common of fishery, may remove some difficulties in respect to this matter with which our books are embarrassed; for it must be acknowledged that the rights and distinctions of the three species of fishery are very much confounded in our law books, and that there are not wanting respectable authorities which maintain that a several fishery may exist distinct from the property of the soil, and that a free fishery involves no exclusive right, but is synonymous with common of piscary."

and it was held that a several fishery was to be assumed to be in the soil of the owner of the fishery, but it might be in the soil of another, and to an action of trespass for fishing therein *liberum tenementum* was a good plea, to which the plaintiff must reply by showing a grant of a several fishery, or a prescriptive right to one." In *Kinnersley v. Orpe*, Doug. 56, the question was raised, but not decided, whether a person who had the exclusive right of fishery, but without the soil, could declare on a several fishery. The last and most recent case" follows up the doctrine that *prima facie* the conveyance of a several fishery carries with it the soil.

Definition of Several Fishery. It thus appears that, according to the authorities, it is difficult to give any precise meaning to the two kinds of fishery called several and free fishery. It will therefore be necessary to look at the nature of the right itself, in order to arrive at that definition which is most consistent with the soundest authorities. A several fishery is the largest right of fishery known to the law. Whoever is the owner of the soil beneath a river not navigable is also entitled to the exclusive fishery in the superincumbent water, and for want of a more definite name this is called his several fishery; and *prima facie* the owner of a several fishery is the owner of the soil also, for the former right is originally an incident of the latter." 1 Holfordy. Bailey, 13 Q. B. 426, 8 Q. B. 101(3).

2 *Marshall v. Ulu-su-rtter Co.* 8 L. T. N. S. 41(3).

3 *D. of Somerset v. Fogwell*, 5 B. C. 875; *Hoi ford v. Bailey*, 13 Q. B. 444; *Marshall v. Ullscicator Steam Co.* 8 L. T. N. S. 416.

But the owner of the soil and fishery may give the several fishery to another by deed without passing the soil, though it will be a question of construction, if there is any ambiguity attending a particular case, whether the soil did not also pass, or at least such use of the soil as is necessary for the use of the fishery.

The result of the best authorities, and of a sound consideration of the nature of the subject-matter, seems to be this: A several fishery is the exclusive right of fishing in a certain place. It belongs *prima facie* to the owner of the soil beneath, as an incident of such ownership of the soil. Though strictly speaking this use of the superincumbent water is included in the ownership of the soil, yet it may be separated from that ownership and conveyed by deed to a third party, who is a stranger to the soil. In the sea and navigable rivers a several fishery does not result from ownership of the soil, which is in the Crown, but from ancient grant of the Crown, as far back as *Magna Charta*, or, from what implies a grant, a prescriptive user. In private rivers and streams a several fishery is one of the riparian rights.

Mode of User of Fishery. — The owner of a several fishery is *prima facie* entitled to catch as many fish as his ingenuity or industry admit, provided he has the whole stream; but inasmuch as the right of a private-fishery, in the event of other owners being entitled to parts of the same stream, is to some extent held in common, and an immoderate user by any one will prejudice the rights of the others, he is at common law, as we have already stated, bound to exercise his right in the usual way, and so as not to injure or annihilate the rights of his neighbours. Hence, though as far as his right to the soil goes, he would be entitled to erect a wear or sluice contrivance adjoining his own lands, yet if it has the effect of stopping all the fish, or sensibly preventing them from passing upwards to the upper proprietors, he will be liable to an action on the case. And so, if he kept a net constantly fixed across the stream, having a similar consequence, this would also be a ground of action. But if he confines himself to net or rod fishing, in the way usual among fishermen, there is no limit to the extent to which he may catch the fish by this means. If the owner and his servants be constantly at work with rods and nets, they may by mere industry destroy as many fish in the course of a few months as are likely to be destroyed by a wear or fixed net in a shorter time, and thus the two kinds of user are only in one sense degrees of the same thing; yet the exercise of the right in the former manner is held to be legitimate, and its excess is no ground of action, whereas the latter is not so, notwithstanding the result to the other parties is identical, or nearly so."

As regards salmon, the *Salmon Fisheries Act* contains various provisions on the subject of fixed nets and wears, which are to be treated of in a separate chapter.

Free Fishery. — The term free fishery, as has been seen in dealing with a several fishery, is used so loosely in *Hamilton v. Marquis of Donegal*, 3 Ridg. P. C. 267, ante, p. 40; *Weld v. Hornby*, 7 East, 195, ante, p. 39.

2 *Hamilton v. Marquis of Donegal*, 3 Ridg. P. C. 267.

the authorities, that no definite meaning can be attributed to it. Lord Mansfield said it was a right of fishery which was co-extensive with the rights of others. Coke seems

to favour the same definition, for he says: "If a man prescribe to have *separauyi* 2 i catiam in a water, the owner shall not fish there; but if a man claim to have *communiam piscarice*, or *liberam piscariam*, the owner of the soil shall fish there." So in the Yearbook, Brian, C. J. says: "There is a great difference between a several and a free fishery, for no man can have a several fishery unless it be in his own soil; but I may grant a free fishery to twenty persons in my own pool." Holt, C. J. gives two definitions; the latter is this: "A man may have a free fishery in his own soil, and another may have a right of fishing therewith him." Blackstone admits that the books are embarrassed with difficulties on this subject, and defines it as an exclusive right of fishing in a public river, and that a man has a property in the fish there before they are caught. But Hargrave observes, that both parts of the definition are open to dispute.

There being, therefore, little precision in the authorities, it is necessary to revert to first principles. We have seen that where A has the soil, and has not parted with the right of fishery in the superincumbent

Seymour v. Courtney, 5 Burr. 2814.

Co. Litt. 122 a, ante, p. 46. 3 17 Ed. IV. 6 pl 5.

Gipfs v. Woolcott, 3 Salk. 291; see another account, *Smith v. Kemjj*, Salk. 637.

5 2 Bl. Com. 39. See ante, p. 46. ' Note to Co. Litt. 122 a.

water, which is a right appurtenant to the soil, he has a several fishery in such Avatur, except where it is a navigable river or the sea, and where *prima facie* the whole public may fish. But if A grant to B, a stranger, the right of fishing along with A, then A and B will have each a free fishery there. A may grant such a right to several persons in *livc nuiner*, each of whom will have a free fishery. Such a grant can only be made by deed, and it will depend on the words of the grant whether and how far A, after making a grant to B, can afterwards make a similar grant to C, D, and others, seeing that the more persons there are who share in such a right the less valuable does it become. It is probably owing to this incident that a free fishery is not often met with. It closely resembles a common of fishery, and the chief distinction between them seems in reality to be in their origin, the free fishery being generally traceable to a specific deed or grant, and the common of fishery being the growth of time and immemorial user, which imply a grant.

Distinction between Free and Several Fishery. The chief distinction between a free fishery and a several fishery is, that two or more persons concurrently and jointly hold the former, whereas the latter is exercised by one person exclusively. A free fishery, unlike a several fishery, implies no ownership of the soil. It is, however, an incorporeal hereditament, and can only be conveyed by deed. The remedies for its obstruction and invasion will be stated afterwards.

The above distinction between the terms free and

See post, p. 57. " See cliaptor VI.

several fishery is recognised in the opinion of the judges in a recent case where "VYlles, J. observes: " Some discussion took place during the argument as to the proper name of such a fishery, whether it ought not to have been called in the pleadings, following Blackstone, a ' free ' instead of a ' several ' fishery. This is more of the confusion which the ambiguous use of the word ' free ' has occasioned from as early

as the Yearbook, 7 H. 7 P. fo. 13, down to the case of *Hoi ford v. Bailey*, 13 Q. B. 444, where it was clearly shown that the only substantial distinction is between an exclusive right of fishery, usually called several, sometimes free (used in 'free warren'), and a right in common with others, usually called 'common of fishery,' sometimes 'free' (used as in free port). The fishery in this case is sufficiently described as a several fishery, which means an exclusive right to fish in a given place, either with or without the property in the soil." For the reason already stated, the retention of the words several or exclusive fishery, and free or common of fishery, is advisable, and in that sense those words are uniformly used in this work.

Common of Fishery. A common of fishery is the right of fishing in waters which belong to the lord of the manor, and is on the same footing as other commons. A common is a right which is almost invariably associated with existing manors, and is traceable to the customs which originally governed those manors, the practice having been for the lord to allow each of the tenants of the manor to pasture cattle or cut turf on the

Mulcolnson v. O'Dea, 9 H. L. Cas.; ante, jx 23.

wastes, or to fish in the river or lake of the manor, the right being appendant or appurtenant to the copyhold estate, and in some rare cases being severed therefrom and associated with the person or in gross. It is a very inconvenient right, for it is seldom capable of being easily apportioned and expanded with altered circumstances. The fishery of the manor must necessarily be a fixed quantity; and if the lord were constantly carving out new plots of ground, and letting it to copyhold tenants, each being allowed to fish in the lord's water, the fishery must necessarily in time become diminished, and ultimately exhausted, for each fresh addition of a tenant is a diminution of the rights of the previously existing tenants. Thus if a manor happen to be situated in a place which suddenly becomes populous, and the land is taken up for building purposes, the new tenants would *in* fact be entitled to the right of fishery, if they were made tenants of the manor in the usual way, for the custom would extend to them, in which case the previous tenants would have an action against the lord for surcharging the fishery, if they found their right of fishery prejudiced. Hence the lord's power to increase indefinitely the copyhold tenants must necessarily be limited, so as not to diminish the equal rights of the previously existing tenants. If the river or lake is large enough to satisfy the reasonable requirements of all the tenants, ancient and new, there is no harm done, but otherwise if the right of the ancient tenants is practically prejudiced by the fishery being overworked or surcharged. At the same time, in estimating the inconveniences of such rights as the common of piscary, it is also to be recollected that the extent of user of the commonable right is always qualified by custom, and is restricted to certain periods of the year, and to the usual modes of fishing; and moreover, except in the case of commons in gross, the quantity of fish which can be lawfully taken is coextensive with the reasonable requirements of the household. Therefore, taking all these considerations together, it is obvious that the right of common of piscary is one which in itself is necessarily limited in its nature, and exists almost exclusively by the ancient custom of manors, and is seldom created by modern deeds. It is, however, competent to grant a right of free fishery by deed, which nearly resembles a common of piscary.

Different Kinds of Common of Piscary. â A common of piscary is of three kinds: common appendant, common appurtenant, and common in gross. A common appendant is a right inseparably annexed to the possession of a particular house, and the extent of the right is measured by the reasonable requirements of the family. It is a right of a permanent nature attached to a house, and is not available to mere inhabitants or lodgers, but is restricted to him who has an estate or interest in the house. Hence it is that the inhabitants of a vill or city cannot prescribe for such a right, as there would be an uncertain measure of claimants.

A common of piscary appurtenant is a right claimed "â See *Ilargravc v. L. Co'iuiletmi*, 12 Ir. C. L. 362, as to an analogous case of common of turbary.

Gateward's case, 6 Eep. 59 a.

8 *Ordway v. Orme*, 1 Bulst. 183; *Tinnery v. Fisher*, 2 Bulst. 87; *English v. Burnell*, 2 Wils. 258.

by a person in respect of a house not necessarily connected, by way of tenure or otherwise, with the locality of the fishery. The right must have been granted by deed within the time of legal memory. It may also be severed from the house and land to which it is ap-purtenant.²

Common in gross is a right claimed by a person, not in respect of any land, but under a grant or, what is equivalent, by prescriptive user,

Nature of Right, and its Assignability. â The nature of a right of fishery proper is an incorporeal hereditament, and as such can be conveyed only by deed." A licence of fishing is distinct from the right of fishery, and is at most only a justification for what would otherwise be a trespass. A licence is revocable at will, and in order to be binding, even for an hour, must be granted by deed.

Fishery not an Easement. â The right to a fishery is classed among profits à prendre, and not among easements; and a several fishery in a navigable river may pass as appurtenant to a manor.

Whether Fishery will pass as appurtenant to Land. â Much discussion arose in an Irish case, whether a fishery could be claimed by prescription, as appurtenant to land. *Cowlam v. Slack*, 15 East, 108; *Prichard v. Butler*, 2 Sid. 87.

8 *Leniel v. Ilmrslop*, 3 Keb. 66; *ffaics v. Bridges*, 1 L. S. 390.

a Co. Litt. 122 a; 2 Inst. 477; 4 Rep. 38.

Ilhckc of Somerset v. Fogwell, 5 B. C. 875; *Bird v. Illegenaon*, 2 A. E. 696.

â Per Parke, B. in *Holford v. Baileij*, 13 Q. B. 426; *Hopkins v. Robinson*, 2 Lev. 2.

Bland v. Lipscombe, 4 E. B. 713 u; *Wickluna v. Hawker*, 7 M. W. 63.

' *Rogers v. Allen*, 1 Camp. 311.

to land, and it was held that it could. On this subject *Finucane, J.* thus lucidly expounded the matter:â " The question is, whether an exclusive right of fishing for oysters can be prescribed for as appurtenant to land, and whether it can be prescribed for as appurtenant to anything but that on which it is to be used. To constitute an appurtenance, nothing is necessary but that the principal and the adjunct should not be *cj'nsdem generis*, and that they be capable of union without repugnance or inconsistency. One corporeal hereditament cannot be appurtenant to another corporeal hereditament, because they pass by the same solemnities, and there is no reason why

one should be the principal more than the other; but incorporeal inheritances of every kind may be appurtenant to corporeal, and corporeal to incorporeal ones, provided there be no inconsistency. Whether they be capable of being so united must depend on their several natures, and the terms of the grant by which they are, or are supposed to be created, for appurtenance is founded on grant, or on prescription, which supposes a grant. In fact, the true test of congruity between the principal and the adjunct is not the advantage which either may derive from the other, but the propriety of the relation between them, which may be found out by considering whether they so agree in nature and quality as to be capable of union without any incongruity. This is Hargrave's opinion;" so it is laid down in 2 Mod. 144, a rent or any profit à rent may be appurtenant to a manor. Now what advantage can 1 Hayes v. Bridges, 1 H. L. S. 390.

2 Co. Litt. 12G h, in noils.

a manor as a manor derive from such a rent? None. The same reasoning will apply to a fishery. If it is a common of fishery that is claimed, it may be well confined to taking for private use, because otherwise the other commoners may be deprived of the benefit of their Common. It may be therefore argued that such a fishery could be claimed only as appurtenant to a house, but there can be no reason for confining it to a house where the exclusive right is claimed, because the fishery much exceeded the quantity necessary for the consumption of the house. So that a fishery may be claimed as appurtenant to any corporeal inheritance as well as a house."

Fishery may be subdivided. A right of fishery is capable of sub-division into parts, and the party entitled to the complete right may let part of it, reserving the rest to himself, just as a tenant of lands may let the game, which implies the right of entry to shoot. Thus an oystery may be let out of a general fishery. And so he who has a general fishery may let the rod and line fishing only; and if possession has been had, he can recover the rent under an indebitatus count for use and occupation, though there has been no grant by deed.

In Grant of a Fishery, what kind is meant. A person having a several fishery grants to another his fishery, without specifying what kind of fishery, the whole several fishery will pass, because the grant will be taken most strongly against the grantor. A case in

Seymour v. Courtenay, 5 Burr. 2814; Rogers v. Allen, 1 Camp. 309. "Holford v. Pritchard, 3 Exch. 793; Bird v. Eliyngson, 2 A. E. 196.

1657 clearly shows this, where it was said: "It was resolved that if one who has a several fishery grant a free fishery, the grantee has a free fishery along with the grantor, but if he grant his fishery without saying more, the entire piscary will pass."

In one case Lord Paget had granted to the defendant the mill, with all waters, streams, &c. necessary for working the mill, and usually held and enjoyed therewith, except and always reserved to the said Lord Paget, his heirs, &c. the right and privilege of fishing in the waters of the said mill. At the time of the grant Lord Paget had a sole fishery in these waters. The Court held that "if there were words in the English language which would not admit of doubt, they are these. Lord Paget had water for a mill, and he had a sole fishery, and he grants the mill, with the water for the mill,

reserving the fishery, and the question is, whether the whole right of fishing is reserved, or whether a new right is created by it." The Court held the whole fishing was reserved.

Whether Grant of Fishery carries the Soil. — Where a lease or deed specifies merely the fishery or the fishings, without other terms, it is a question of construction whether the soil passes along with the fishery; and it seems *prima facie* that the soil does not pass. There are, however, conflicting authorities, or rather there is 1 *Alderman v. London Dock Co.*, 2 Sid. 8.

2 See also *Co. Litt.* 4 b, 122 A; ante, p. 46. 8 *Lord Paget v. Mills*, 3 Doug. 43.

4 *Co. Litt.* 4 b.

6 *riowd.* 154 a; *Smith v. Zewy*;, 2 *Salk.* 637; *Ilford v. Bailei*, 13 Q. li. 444; 8 Q. B. 1016.

a looseness of language on this subject corresponding to the looseness of meaning attached to the words several fishery. Bayley, J. says it may be true that the owner of a several fishery must be presumed to be the owner of the soil, where the terms of the grant under which he claims are unknown; but when they appear, and are such as convey an incorporeal hereditament only, the presumption is destroyed. And in a previous case he said: "I should doubt very much if the grant of a fishery would convey the soil and everything underneath it, such as all the minerals, though I can conceive that it may pass so much of the soil as is connected with the fishery." 2 Another reason why the word fishery should not be held to carry the soil is this: inasmuch as it is settled that a fishery is capable of being split into a fishery for oysters, for floating fish, for salmon, &c. it would follow, if it be construed to draw the soil, that by such grants it may be conveyed to as many persons as there are different kinds of fish.

The point whether the soil passed with the grant of a fishery has hitherto chiefly been raised in questions on the construction of ancient deeds taken in connexion with the subsequent user.

The mode of construing and ascertaining the nature of the right of fishery was thus stated by Bayley, J.: "In order to form a judgment whether this was a grant of a mere incorporeal hereditament or not, we must look at the terms of the grant, and in what manner the 1 *D. of Somerset v. Fofordl*, 5 B. C. 875.

1 *R. v. Ellis*, 1 U. S. 665.

Per *Fiimcane, J.* in *Ilajcs v. Bridges*, 1 *Kidg. L. S.* 420.

grantee has from time to time exercised the thing granted. Now it appears that he has exercised, not merely the right of fishing, but of landing his nets on the beach, or any part of the bed of the river, wherever he thought fit; and he also has been used to drive stakes into the ground for the purpose of affixing his net to them. There is, however, no privilege granted by the deed to use the beach or bed of the river for any such purpose; there is none at least granted in express terms. But it is said it would pass as incident to the grant; and if it were necessary to the exercise it might and would pass as incident; but to say that is begging the question, because it is assuming that it is necessary; but of that the sessions were the proper judges. There are many instances of these rights of fishery being exercised without landing nets on the beach or bed of the river, or driving piles into the ground, such as the fisheries in the Thames, the Southampton and other rivers, which are carried on by means of boats alone for that purpose. Therefore it is not a necessary incident to such a right as this that the

party should have the privilege of landing nets on the beach or of driving stakes. If, then, this be not an incidental privilege, nor one which is granted in express terms, to what else can the exercise be referred except to its being a grant of a fishery of such a nature as conveyed at least the surface of the soil."

A deed which conveyed " a messuage, tenement, boat-house, c. and all the sea grounds, oyster-layings, shores

The case in *liaml* was an appeal against a finding of justices. 2 Per Bayley, R. v. Ellis, 1 M. S. 666-7.

and fisheries," was held to convey the right of soil in the sea-shore between high and low water mark, and not merely the oyster fishings.

In another case, a deed granted " all that our fishery of the halves and halvendoles, with the fishings called Unlawater, with the appurtenants to the lialves due and accustomed, within the river Severn, with all ro 'al fishes there to be taken." The Court held this passed the soil, because whatever " the halves and halvendoles " precisely meant, they distinctly appeared to be of the nature of land, and the words " royal fish " also implied that the ownership of the soil went with it. At all events, the Court held there was sufficient doubt to prevent them disturbing the. order of sessions, which rated the fishery as including land. In like manner where, under an agreement, a tenant held the fishery of a pond containing sixty acres, called Alresford Pond, with the grates, c. and also all the spearsedge, Hags, and rushes growing in and about the said pond, 1 *Scmuoii V. Bmicn*, 4 B. C. 845. "It seems to me," said Bailey, J. "the word sea-ground alone would liave passed the soil, l)ut then the words ' oyster layings ' are introduced, and it is said that lVom those words it is to be inferred that, by the words 'sea grounds," it was intended to convey a privilege of laying oysters only. I think, however, that these additional words may have been introduced because the grantor was uncertain as to the nature of the right which he had actually derived from the Crown." Holroyd, J. also observed, that in a grant it was not very material which of the parts stands first. And Littledale, J. said that the words "oyster layings" would not of itself have passed the soil, but coupled with the word "shores" it would.

R. V. Ellis. 1 M. S. 652. Le Blanc, J. in that case relied on the expression "halves and halvendoles" being explained by the usage of the fishermen under it, for they used nets which lay on the beach or bed of the river, and sometimes they affixed one end of the net to a pole stuck into the bed of the river.

and the right of cutting the sedge growing on land adjacent, c. it was hekl that he was rateable to the poor, and that it might be taken that the fishery and the soil passed together.

In the case of the fishery of the Bann, it appeared that the king had the fishery of the Bann, a navigable river, as parcel of the ancient inheritance of the Crown, and James I. by letters patent granted to Sir E. McDonnell, in fee, the territory of Eout, parcel of the Co. Antrim, and adjoining to the river Bann, in that part where the fishery was; and by the letters patent the king granted " omnia castra, messiiagia, c. piscarias piscationes aquas aquarum cursus," c.; and it was held that the fishery of the Bann did not pass by the grant of the land adjoining and by the general grant of all piscaries, for that it was a royal fishery, not appurtenant to the land, but a fishery in gross, and was by itself

part of the inheritance of the Crown, and that general words in a grant by the king would not pass such a special royalty, which belonged to the Crown by prerogative.

The most recent case on this subject was where the plaintiff brought an action of trespass against the 1 Buller, J. said: "The fact of letting a fishery is sufficient, and we must presume that the soil passed along with it." And Ashurst, J. said: "There is no doubt that a fishery is a tethment, and that trespass will lie for an injury to it, and it may be recovered in ejectment." This last observation is, of course, loosely expressed, for everything depends on what is meant by "fishery." The case only proves that, where the words are somewhat uncertain, and the sessions find the fact that the soil passed, the Court above will not reverse that finding without very clear words of grant. *R. v. Alrcsford*, 1 T. R. 358.

Davis 55.

3 D. of Somerset v. Focjincll, 5 B. C. 875.

defendant for breaking his several tishoiy in Ullswater lake. In proof of his title, the plaintiff produced a deed of feoffment, dated 1741, conveying to his predecessor a fishery in the locus in quo, on payment of a yearly rent of 4rz. to the lord of the manor. On this deed of feoffment Kvery of seisin was duly made. The Court held that the fishery must be taken to mean a several fishery, and so presumably included the soil thereof. The Court held that construction confirmed by the fact that a feoffment with livery of seisin indorsed would not be appropriate to the conveyance of an incorporeal right, although it might if the livery was secundum formam chartæ so operate; moreover, a free rent of M. was incapable of being reserved out of an incorporeal inheritance by a common person.

Result of Authorities. *â* Though it may now be taken as concluded by the above authorities that a grant of a several fishery, if nothing is known as to the ownership of the soil, will impliedly carry the soil, yet the result seems to be opposed to sound principle.

1 That point was strongly put in the above case of *Marshall v. Ulls-water Co.* by Cockburn, C. J. "It is admitted on all hands that a several fishery may exist independent of the ownership of the soil in the bed of the river. Why, then, should such a fishery be considered, in the absence of negative proof, as carrying with it the property in the soil? On the contrary, it seems to me that there is every reason for holding the opposite way. The use of water for the purpose of fishing is, when the fishing is united with the ownership of the soil, a right incidental and accessory to such ownership. In a grant of the land, the water and the incidental and accessory right of fishery would necessarily pass with it. If, then, the intention be to convey the soil, why not convey the land at once, leaving the accessory to follow? Why grant the accessory, that the principal may follow incidentally? Surely such a proceeding would be at once illogical and unlawful. The grantor is justly said to comprehend the less;

Fishery granted by Sicuite. *â* Sometimes the right of fishery is entirely the creature of agreement between the parties, and must depend on the construction of the deed. Thus, where a canal Act provided that the owners of the lands on which a reservoir was made might let all the water out once in seven years, for the purpose of taking the fish therein, and the Act also said that all the owners of lands through which the canal was made should have the right of fishery in so much of the canal as should be

made over their lands respectively, it was held that the meaning was not that all the owners should have a tenancy in common in the fish caught on emptying the reservoir, but that each should take whatever fish might be left on his own soil, each having a several fishery on his own land.

So in a case where a canal was made through a manor, it was enacted by the local statute that " the lord of the manor should have the right of fishery of and in so much of the canal, cut, and reservoir as shall be made in, over, or through the common or waste lands but this is to make the converse of that proposition liold good. A grant of land carries with it, as we all know, the minerals which may be below the surface. But who ever heard of a gi'ant of the miuerals carrying with it the general o vnership of the soil? Why shoidd a different principle be applied to a gi-ant of that which is above the surface of the soil, as the gi'ant of the minerals is a grant of that which is below it? Nor should it be forgotten that the opposite doctrine involves the startling and manifest absurdity that, should the water become dry, or be diverted from natural causes, the fishery, which was the primary and principal oljject of the grant, would be gone, and the property in the soil, which only passed incidentally and as accessory to the grant of the fishery, would remain." To the above illustrations may be added the analogous case of the game of an estate, a grant of which does not carry the soil., 1 *Snappe v. Dobbs*, 8 Moore 23.

within the manor, and the owner of any other lands should have the like right of fishery in so much of the canal or collateral cut as shall be made in, over, or thirou h Ills lands." It was held that the words " commons or wastes" meant those commonable lands of which the soil was in the lord, and not open fields, where owners have rights of severalty; and that the lord had a right of fishing only in the canal or cut over his lands, and not in the reservoir.

Lease of Fishery. â A several fishery may be let to a tenant at a fixed rent, in the same manner as the shootings or game. Both are incorporeal hereditaments, and can only be granted by deed. Nor can a valid and irrevocable licence to fish be granted, even for an hour, except by deed.² But the fishery may be let by verbal agreement; and even where no rent has been agreed upon, the landlord is entitled to sue the tenant for a reasonable rent under an indchitatus count for use and occupation.

Ordinary Lease of Lands including Water. â In the ordinary case of a lease of lands including waters or streams, the right of fishery is necessarily implied as part of the general right to the soil and water, unless the lessor specially reserve it. If, therefore, there is no special reservation of the right of fishery, the tenant and not the landlord will be the party entitled to the fishery. Properly speaking, the right cannot be reserved by the lease; but, what is practically the same thing, 1 *Grand Union Canal Co. v. Ashby*, 6 H. N. 394.

² Per Taïke, B. in *Holford v. Bailey*, 13 Q. B. 426; *Duke of Somerset v. Fogivcll*, 5 B. C. 875.

³ *Eolford V. Pritchard*, 3 Exch. 793.

the reservation is construed as a regrant by tlie tenant to the landlord.¹ Indeed, a reservation is equal to a grant.² The reason why a tenant of lands has the right of fishery in the waters or streams of the farm is, that the lease gives the exclusive possession of the hanks, and of the riparian rights attaching to them, and fishery is one

of these rights, and the lessor could not, without express power being reserved, come on the lands to exercise the rights of fishery.

Fishery in a Manor. With regard to a river, stream, or water within a manor, there is no presumption that the several or free fishery therein belongs to the lord of the manor; on the contrary, the presumption is in favour of the owners of the adjacent land.

Ratability of Fishery. A mere fishery proper, that is, an incorporeal hereditament, is not ratable to the poor under 43 Eliz. But if the fishery is coupled with the right to the soil, as it may be under a grant generally of the fishery, accompanied by proof of use of the soil for nets and stakes, then it is liable to the poor-rate in respect of the profits attaching to it. Bayley, J. however, doubted whether a grant of a fishery would convey the soil, and everything beneath it, such as the minerals, though he conceived that it might pass so much of the soil as is connected with the fishery. Whether the mere grant of a fishery carries with it a 1 See *Graham v. Ewart*, 7 H. L. Cas. 331; *Paterson's Game Laws*, p. 16.

2 Per L. Mansfield, *Seymour v. Courtney*, 5 Burr. 2817. ' *Lamb v. Newbiycjin*, 1 C. K. 549.

R. V. Ellis, 1 M. S. 652. See also, *Bute v. Grindall*, 1 T. R. 388. *R. V. Ellis*, 1 M. S. 666.

right to the soil as incident to the right to the soil, which it would do if the right to the soil were necessary to the exercise of the right of fishery, yet is a question of circumstances whether the fishery can be carried on without the use of the soil. And though the fishery itself may not be ratable, the tithe of fish is ratable on the lands of the lay impropriator. "No tithe is due for fish of common right but it may be by custom.

R. V. Ellis, 1 M. S. 666. " *R. V. Carlyon*, 3 T. K. 385.

3 Anon. 6 Mod. 223; Cro. Cas. 264, 339; 1 Lev. 179; 1 Sid. 278; 1 Vent. 5; 5 Bac. Ab. 63; 5 Com. Dig. ' *Dismes*."

RIGHT OF PROPERTY IN FISH—HOW FAR LARCENY MAY BE COMMITTED AS TO FISH—STATUTORY OFFENCE OF POACHING FISH BY 24 25 VICT. c. 96, s. 24—effect of enactment—waters not

ADJOINING DWELLING-HOUSES—ARRESTING FISH-POACHERS—SEIZING fish-poachers' IMPLEMENTS—MODE OF PROSECUTING POACHERS—RIGHT OF PROPERTY IN POACHED FISH—MALICIOUS INJURIES TO FISHERIES—DESTROYING FISHPONDS—POISONING OF WATERS—STEALING OYSTERS—OYSTERS GENERALLY.

Right of Property in Fish. The nature of the property in fish caught in a several fishery depends on the size and nature of the water. If the water is a pond enclosed in the owner's grounds, in which the fish can be caught more or less at pleasure, the property in such fish is vested in the owner of the fishery, and they are more like chattels, or are in the category of reclaimed beasts kept in confinement. Accordingly, if a person take such fish he is liable to an action of trespass, or in certain cases is guilty of larceny.

Where the water is large and the fish therein are for the use of the public (for the question is one chiefly of degree).

Grey's case, *Owen*, 20.

there is also an offence in the nature of larceny committed in certain cases under 2-i 25 Vic. c. 9G, Â 24; but cases not within the common law definition of larceny, nor within that Act, are regulated by common law.

Fish in a Trunk or Pond. â It is obvious that fish in a trunk, net, or small enclosed space where they can be taken at the will of the owner, are subjects of property; they are wild animals reduced into possession, or kept in confinement. Accordingly larceny at common law may be committed as to these, seeing that they are fit for food; and so it has frequently been held. But as to a pond or small lake, where fish are kept, the question will depend upon the size of such pond. According as the pond is small or large the owner can only take them with less or more difficulty, it being a question mostly of time, and cases may be supposed where there is really no substantial distinction between fish in a pond and fish in the sea or a river as regards their natural liberty. If the test of its being a subject of larceny is, that the pond is enclosed in private property, then larceny may equally be committed of fish in a lake of several miles extent, because the fish cannot get away in one sense, and if the test be the facility of catching the fish, it is obvious that, as between a pond or lake and a river there is very little difference in this respect, it being indeed a question of time in all cases, except, perhaps, where they are in a trunk or very small pond, when they can be taken at will,

How far Larceny may be Committed. â It is obvious 1 Grey's case, Owen, 20.

some sncli line must be drawn in order to decide whether or not the fish are capable of larceny. In all the authorities it will be found the word pond is not defined, whereas the whole question must obviously turn on the size of it. The distinction is therefore very loosely drawn, and while on the one hand all the authorities seem to agree that fish in a trunk may be subjects of larceny, no one attempts to define how large the pond or lake must be where larceny ends.""

1 East (PL Cro. 610) observes: "It has been doubted wlietlier, at common law, larceny can be committed of fish in a poud. It is admitted that it may be if they be confined in a trunk or net, because they are then restrained of their natural liberty. And it seems difficult not to extend the application of the same reason to the case of fish in a poud, the pond being private enclosed property, and the fish liable to be taken at any time, according to the pleasure of the owner. Lambert (274) says: 'Fishes in streams and rivers are nullius Tjona, et vccupanti concedimtur;' but he and others agree that it maybe felony to take them in a trunk, stew, or pond, for a man hath such a possession of them that, by their restraint they cannot, without help, use their nature and forsake him. So Lord Coke says larceny maybe committed of fish in a trunk or pond, because they are not at their natural liberty, but, as it were, in a pound. Hawkins (c. 33, s. 25), considers it clear that the taking of fish out of a pond is felony."

2 Thus Hale (1 Hale P. C. 510-11) says: "Larceny cannot be committed of things that are ferce naturce, unreclaimed, and nullius in bonis, as of deer or conies, tliough in a park or warren; fish in a river or pond; wild fowl, wild swans, plieasants. But of young pigeons in a dovecot, fish in a tmnk or net, larceu ' may be committed." Various other authorities leave undefined the distinction as to what is the size of pond in which larceny of fish may be committed. See 49 H. M, p. 14, pi. 9, 10; 18 Ed. IV. fol. 8, ph 7; Lamb. 269; Crompt. 33 b; Pult. 131; Dalt. 349, 350; 1 Hale, 510; Grey's

case, Owen, 20; Child v. Greenhill, Cro. Cas. 553; Mallocke v. Easthj, 3 Lev. 227; Upton v. Daukin, 3 Mod. 97; R. v. Steer, 6 Mod. 183; 1 Hawk. c. 33, Â 25, 26, 27.

In R. v. Hunsdon, East, P. C. 611, which was an indictment under a statute 5 Geo. III. c. 14, for entering a garden and stealing from a pond, it was the opinion of some of the judges that, if the indictment had been at common law for felony, it should have described what sort

Statutory Offences of Poaching Fish. â Seeing that the offence of taking fish in a several fishery amounts at common law to larceny only in those cases where the place is a trunk or very small pond, the size of which is indefinite, though there must obviously be a limit somewhere, it was necessary that a statute should enact penalties so as to protect the fisheries in places where larceny could not be committed. Accordingly the Larceny Act, 2-i 25 Vict. c. 90, Â 2-i, contained such an enactment.

of a pond it was, that it might appear on the face of the indictment that taking fish out of such a pond was felony.

1 "Whosoever shall unlawfully and wilfully take or destroy any fish in any water which shall run through or be in any land adjoining or belonging to the dwelling-house of any person being the owner of such water, or having a right of fishery therein, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour.

"And whosoever shall unlawfully take or destroy, or attempt to take or destroy, any fish in any water not being such as hereinbefore mentioned, but which shall be private property, or in which there shall be any private right of fishery, shall, on conviction thereof before a Justice of the Peace, forfeit and pay, over and above the value of the fish taken or destroyed (if any), such sum of money, not exceeding 5., as to the Justice shall seem meet.

"Provided, that nothing hereinbefore shall extend to any person angling between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise, and the expiration of the first hour after sunset: but whosoever shall, by angling between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the first hour after sunset, unlawfully and wilfully take or destroy, or attempt to take or destroy any fish in any such water as first mentioned, shall, on conviction before a Justice of the Peace, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 51.; if in any such water as last mentioned, he shall, on the like conviction, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 21., as to the Justice shall seem meet; and if the boundary of any parish, township, or vill shall happen to be in or by the side of such water, as it is in this section before mentioned, it shall be sufficient to prove that the offence was committed either in the parish, township, or vill named in the indictment or information, or in any parish, township, or vill adjoining thereto."â 2-i 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 24.

Effect of Enactment. â The effect of the enactment 24 25 A. c. 96, Â 24 is to alter the common law in some cases, where otherwise larceny would have been capable of being committed, and to reduce the offence from larceny to a misdemeanour. Thus, where the fish have been taken and destroyed in a pond adjoining to and belonging to a dwelling-house, if the pond was small, larceny, as already statedâ that is, felonyâ would be committed; but now, whether the pond be small or large, and even though it is not a pond but part of a stream, if it fulfil the description of a water adjoining the dwelling-house, the offence committed is a misdemeanour.

Place, of Offence. â In order to commit this offence the water must belong to or adjoin the dwelling-house of the person who is owner of the water or the owner of a fishery therein. " To adjoin " in this sense must mean a moderate contiguity in point of local distance, and without intervening fences, and " to belong to " seems to imply that the water is held or let with the house under the same tenure or lease, or at least that both the house and the fishery belong to the same owner, though it seems they need not be both occupied by the same person. If the water is a pond in the private grounds attached to the house, there can be no difficulty in holding the offence committed there, even though the distance be more or less according to the size and style of the house. But where the water is a running stream, which must necessarily extend to a great distance, as no test is given whereby to determine where the line is to be drawn at which the stream ceases to adjoin or 1 R. V. Ilod'jes, L M. 341.

belong to the house, the safer course will be to resort to the next clause of the same section, which declares the offence in respect of "water not being such as liereinbefore mentioned." This, which is an offence punishable by fine of 51. and the value of the fish, may be committed in all waters which do not adjoin or belong to any dwelling-house, provided such water is private property or in which there is a private right of fishery. In short, this description seems applicable to all streams which are not navigable rivers, and whatever be the description of fish taken. The words also include even navigable rivers and the sea, wherever an individual has a several fishery at the spot in question, as may well be the case.

Form of Conviction. â The conviction must be drawn up with reasonable certainty as regards the place and the circumstances of the offence.

Form of Indictment. â An indictment for fishing by 1 Where a conviction for fishing without consent of the owner stated the locus to be " in part of a certain stream whieli runnph between B in thie parish of A in the county of W, and C in the same parish and county," it was quashed because it did not appear, and the Court would not assume that thie intermediate course of the stream between the two termini where the off'ence was alleged to have been committed, was in the county o W, and within the jurisdiction of the convicting magistrate. R. V. Edwariu, 1 East, 278. The conviction ought to state that the defendant had not the licence or consent of the owner of the fishery. R. V. Mallinson, 2 Bun-. 679; 2 Ld. Ken. 384; R. v. Daman, 2 B. Aid. 378; R. v. Cordai, 4 Burr. 2279.

The warrant of commitment must show all that is material to constitute the offence, though the conviction may have been quite regular; and though the same precision in the warrant of commitment is not necessary, still enough must be stated to show an authority to imprison. Wickes V. Climerbiick, 2 Bing. 483.

' See mpra.

force of arms wdthliout licence, and unlawfully, unless there was a riotous assembling for the purpose, is not sustainable at common law, as already stated, and it requires a statute to make it good.

Wlidlicr Manual Possession of Fish is necessary to the Oj ence. â The first offence, viz. that of misdemeanour, consists in taking or destroying; and it is to be observed, that something short of catching the fish alive or dead will amount to the offence of " taking." There need not be manual possession acquired;- and the means used are

wholly immaterial. No mere attempting to catch the fish will amount to that offence; at the same time, if they are caught either by hand, by rod, or net, or in any other manner, the offence will be complete. The only qualification as to means is as regards angling during certain hours specified; and all that is then done is to reduce the offence of angling during those hours from misdemeanour to a penal offence. Mere taking of fish for scientific purposes, or, it seems, even for purposes of removal to other waters, was not a criminal offence under the older Acts.

Poaching Fish not near a Dwelling-house. *As re- 1 R. V. Marshall, 2 Keb. 594, In an indictment under 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 24, for stealing or taking fish, it is not necessary to allege the number of fish taken. R. v. Wetwancj, 1 Lev. 203, nor that they were the goods and chattels of the owner. R. v. Hunsdon, 2 East, P. C. 61 L R. V. Steer, 6 Mod. 188. Indeed, unless they are in a stew-pond or trunk, they are not goods and chattels, though, if they are in a close pond, they might be called; Â sccs sui. R. v. Steer, 3 Salk. 189, 291.*

The indictment should state that the place was water in land adjoining or lying along to the dwelling-house. *Wicks v. Clutterbuck, 2 King. 483; 10 Moore, 63; R. v. Sadler, 2 Chitt. 519.*

2 R. V. Glover, R. R. 269.

Bridger v. Richardson, 2 M. S. 568.

As regards the second offence specified in 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 24, viz. that of taking fish in waters other than those adjoining a dwelling-house, it is to be observed that the offence consists not only in actually taking or destroying, but attempting to do so. In order to prove this offence, therefore, circumstantial evidence will in general be sufficient. Thus, in the analogous case of pursuing game, the Justice may infer the offence was committed from evidence that the person was seen going about a field with a dog and gun, and acting like one looking for game. So, if a man is seen near a river or stream, in the attitude of fishing, this will be some evidence of the offence, though weak evidence.

Several Offences on One Day. *As* There can only be one offence committed on one day, though there may be several takings, or attempts to take fish on the same day, for the penalty is not affected by the number of fish taken, or of the times attempted.

Who may Prosecute for Poaching Fish. *As* Any person may prosecute for poaching fish under this enactment, for the penalty is not declared to be forfeited to the owner of the fishery or water, and there are no equivalent words. In the older statutes it was otherwise."

Arresting Fish-Poachers. *As* The Larceny Act gives express power to any person to arrest fish-poachers, if caught in the act. The arrest may be made without a warrant. *Paterson's Game L. 5; R v. Scott, 8 L. T. N. S. 662.*

2 R. V. Levett, 7 T. R. 152.

R. y. Daman, 2 B. Aid. 378; R v. Cordcn, 4 Burr. 2279; and see Paterson's Game L. 55, as to the analogous cases under the Game Acts.

By the 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 103, any person found committing any offence, except only as regards angling-poaching by day. Though only the owner of the ground or fishery, and no other person, can, under the 25th section, demand and seize the fishing implements, any person whatever, though a stranger, has power to arrest the poacher

himself, under the 103d section. But the poacher can only be so arrested when found committing the offence; that is, he must be found on the spotâ or near itâ where he has been actually poaching. If, therefore, the poacher has left the place, and got to the highway or into another field, the power to arrest can no longer be exercised. The party arresting has no right to seize and keep the fishing implements, unless he is also the party authorized to do so by the 25th section. Nor can the party arresting seize and take possession of the fish poached, for these belong to the poacher, unless in the case (which must be very rare) where they were taken out of a small pond or trunk, as to which larceny would be capable of being committed at common law." The words in the section "together with such property" obviously offence punishable either upon indictment or upon summary conviction by virtue of this Act, except only the offence of angling in the daytime, may be immediately apprehended without a warrant by any person, and forthwith taken, together with such property (if any), before some neighbouring Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with according to law; and if any credible witness shall prove upon oath before a Justice of the Peace a reasonable cause to suspect that any person has in his possession or on his premises, any property whatsoever, on, or with respect to which any offence punishable either upon indictment, or upon summary conviction by virtue of this Act, shall have been committed, the Justice may grant a warrant to search for such property, as in the case of stolen goods.

1 Seejost, p. 79.

2 See post, p. 79.

3 See ante, p. 72.

do not apply to poached fish, for these were not "property" before they were caught, and when caught they belong to the poacher, and therefore a search warrant cannot be obtained to get at poached fish. Those words refer to the ordinary case of goods stolen provided for in previous parts of the Larceny Act. When arrested, the poacher must be taken within a reasonable time before a neighbouring Justice. The arresting party may hand over the poacher to police constables, and detain, or leave him in charge at the nearest police station, or any other convenient place, under the charge of others, while he goes in search of a Justice of the Peace. Some statutes fix a maximum time, such as twelve hours, for taking the arrested party to a Justice; but as no time is here mentioned, it is enough that there is no more delay than is reasonable in the circumstances.

Seizure of Fish-Poachers Implements. â The statute 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25, gives power to seize the poacher's fishing implements." The power to seize these implements is in derogation of the common law, and therefore 1 *Evatis V. Madmujhun*, 4 L. T. N. S. 31; 4 *Jlacti. Ap. C.*

2 "If any person shall at anytime be found fishing, against the provisions of this Act, the owner of the ground, water, or fishery, where such offender shall be so found, his servant, or any person authorized by him, may demand from such offender any rod, line, hook, net, or other implement for taking or destroying fish which shall then be in his possession, and, in case such offender shall not immediately deliver up the same, may seize and take the same from him, for the use of such owner. Provided, that any person angling, against the provisions of this Act, between the beginning

of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the first hour after sunset, from whom any implement used by anglers shall be taken, or by whom the same shall be so delivered up, shall, by the taking or delivering thereof, be exempted from the payment of any damages or penalty for such angling." 24 25 Vict. c. 9(5), s. 25.

must be strictly construed. At common law, the owner could neither arrest a trespasser, nor seize his fishing implements. This section gives no power to arrest the poacher, but it is given by sect. 103. In exercising the special power given by this section to seize the implements, it will therefore be necessary to observe the qualifications under which it is given. The persons entitled are the owner of the ground, water, or fishery, and his servants; and therefore if, as may well be, the ground or fishery is let, the occupier would not be entitled, for there is no definition of the word owner which includes occupier. The demand must be made on the spot where the poaching takes place, and therefore if the poacher has left the water and the ground, he is beyond the reach of seizure. The demand must first be made in a reasonable manner before the seizure can be made by force; and no more force is to be used than what is necessary. When seized, the fishing implements belong absolutely to the owner of the ground or water who seizes them, and who can thereupon do what he likes with them. The seizure of the implements is a remedy over and above the misdemeanour or penalty incurred by the illegal fishery; but as regards anglers during the hours specified, if the rod, &c. are seized, no other remedy can be resorted to.

In exercising the statutory power of arresting poachers, it may well happen that the servants of the owner of the fishery may assault and imprison the trespasser at a place which, though near, is not within the limits of 1 Ante, p. 77.

2 *Wisdom v. Hoclson*, 3 Tyr. 811, their master's fishery. Thus, for example, the gamekeepers of Colonel Pennant took into custody a man fishing at night in the Menai Straits, near the mouth of the river Ogwen. An action having been afterwards brought for the false imprisonment and assault, the question was, whether the defendants were entitled to notice of action; the jury having found that the spot where the arrest took place was a few yards beyond the limits of the fishery, but that the defendants had fide and reasonably believed that the fishery extended to that spot, the Court held that the defendants were entitled to notice of action in such circumstances. This decision does not show that no action will lie, but merely that if an action is brought, the usual notice of action (one month's notice) must be first given, so that the defendants may have an opportunity of tendering amends for the wrong they had inadvertently done.

Abettors of Fish Poaching. Though persons who abet fish poaching are not liable to be apprehended, still they may be proceeded against by summons before a Justice; and they are liable to precisely the same punishment as the poachers themselves.

Mode of Prosecuting Poachers. If the poacher has not been apprehended in the act of poaching, and so taken at once red-handed before a Justice, the only mode of proceeding against him is by laying an information before a Justice at petty sessions where the offence was committed. A summons will then be issued, calling upon the party to appear at a day to be named, when 1 *Hughes v. Buckland*, 15 M. W. 346. " 24 25 Vict. c. 96, s. 99, the prosecutor must be in attendance "with his witnesses to give evidence; and if the defendant do not appear, a warrant will then be issued for his apprehension.

1 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 105; 11 12 Yict. c. 43.

The details of the procedure before the Justices are as follows: By 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 120, the procedure is to be under Jervis's Act, 11 12 Yict. 0. 43.

Procedure before Justices. â It sometimes happens that a person prosecuted for poaching asserts that he had a legal right so to fish. There is no express provision in this statute by which a defendant who bona fide claims to fish where he has fished under such supposition of right, is entitled to oust the jurisdiction of the Justices. No express provision, however, was necessary; for in all cases detenninable before Justices, it is competent to a defendant to set up this claim. Thus, if he bond fide claims a title to the fishery, the Justices, if satisfied of the bona fides, ought to stay their hands, and leave the matter to be settled by an action at law. *Per Crompton, J. R. v. Cridland*, 7 E. B. 853; *Jones V. Taylor*, 1 E. E. 21; *Legcj v. Pardoe*, 30 L. J. 108 M. C; *Leatt V. Vine*, 30 L. J. 207 M. C. The Justices must, however, be satisfied of the boncv fides, and hence must have some reasonable evidence of the ground of the claim, for they are not to be stayed by every idle assertion of a defendant in such cases. *Williams v. Adums*, 30 L. J. 109 M. C. The claim must be also set up by the defendant in his own right. *Comioell v. Sanders*, 26 J. P. 757.

The penalties are to be paid to the party aggrieved, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 106, which means to the owner or occupier of the fishery, and if he is not known, then to the clerk of the petty sessional division, 11 12 Yict. c. 43, Â 31. The defendant may be committed for nonpayment of the penalty, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 107. The form of commitment for non-payment of a penalty is given in 11 12 Yict. c. 43, sched. 0 1. The Justice may, if it is a first offence, discharge the defendant on his making satisfaction to the party aggrieved for damages and costs, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 108. If the party has paid the penalty, or it has been remitted by the Crown, this is a bar to all other proceedings for the same cause, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 109.â The defendant's release from other proceedings mentioned in this section, however, only takes effect where the party suing is the same party who had instituted the proceedings for a summary conviction as informer. *Tarry v. Newman*, 15 M. W. 654. If the penalty exceeds 51. or the imprisonment exceeds one month, or the conviction took place before one Justice only, the party may appeal to the next quarter sessions, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 110. And if either party choose (and

Officers of the Army and Navy Poaching Fish. â The Annual Mutiny Act contains an enactment that every ill case of conviction, whatever may have been the amount of penalty inflicted) he may demand a case to be stated to one of the superior courts under 20 21 Yict. c. 43. The conviction shall not be removed by certiorari, 24 25 Yict. c. 96, Â 111. This section, however, only applies where there is jurisdiction in the Justices, and does not prevent a certiorari where there is no jurisdiction, *Evans v. Mac-loughlan*, 4 L. T. N. S. 31. And it only precludes the defendant, and not the prosecutor, from applying for a certiorari, for the statute does not bind the Crown, which acts through the prosecutor, *R. v. Boulthce*. 4 A. E. 505. So the section does not apply where the Justices are interested, *R. v. Cheltenham Com.* 1 Q. B. 467; *R. v. Justices of Hertfordshire*, 6 Q. B. 753, unless the defendant waived the objection. *Ibid*; *R. v. Rishton*, 1 Q. B. 479; *R. v. Justices of Richmond*., 24 J. P. 422.

The conviction must be transmitted by the committing Justice to the next quarter sessions, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 112. Another similar enactment is contained in 11 12 Vict. c. 43, Â 14, which is only a directory provision. *Charter v. Graeme*, 13 Q. B. 216. If the Justices unduly delay drawing up the conviction they are liable in an action of damages, *Proscr v. Hiide*, 1 T. R. 414; *R. v. Medium*, 3 Bm-r. 1720; *R. V. Eaton*, 2 T. R. 285. A mandamus does not lie to the Justice's clerk to transmit the conviction, for it is the duty of the Justices themselves, *Ex. p. Hayivard*, 27 J. P. 102.

"Where an action is brought against a person for anything done in pursuance of the Act, the venue shall be laid in the county of the offence; one month's notice may be given, c. 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 113. In order to determine when a thing is done in pursuance of the Act, it is essential that the party act bond fide in the belief that some statute protected him in enforcing the law, though he may not know precisely which statute. And it is not essential that he act reasonably, for bona fides may exist without reasonableness of conduct: *Hermann v. Seneschal*, 12 C. B. N. S.; 26 J. P. 598; *Read v. Coker*, 13 C. B. 850; *Booth v. Clive*, 10 C. B. 834; *Hughes v. Buckland*, 15 M. W. 346. And it is a question for the jury whether the party acted bond fide in the circumstances. *Ibid*; *Haseldine v. Grove*, 3 Q. B. 997; *Cox v. Rcid*, 13 Q. B. 558; *Braham v. Watkins*, 16 M. W. 77; *Horn V. Thornborough*, 3 Exch. 846. The notice of action should state clearly and explicitly the time and place of the alleged illegal act, so as to show it was illegal: 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 9; *Martins v. Upcher*, 3 Q. B. 662; *Brece v. Jerdain*, 4 Q. B. 585; *Jones v. Nichols*, 15 M. W. 361; *Jacklin v. Fitch*, 14 M. W. 381. The main facts officer who shall without leave in writing from the persons entitled to grant such leave, take, kill, or destroy any should be stated, but the subordinate facts need not be so, *Lmry v. Patrick*, 15 Q. B. 266. The notice should also state in what court the action is to be brought, as well as the plaintiff's name and place of abode, and those of his attorney (if any), 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 9. If the action is against a Justice, the notice should also state the cause of action, that the Justice may know whether the alleged illegal act was one done by him as a Justice, or in excess of jurisdiction, as pointed out by 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 1, 2; *Taylor v. Nesfield*, 3 E. B. 724. If the Justice acted not as a Justice, or if the defendant was not a Justice in fact, no notice is necessary, *James v. Saunders*, 10 Bing. 429; *Lester v. Barroiv*, 9 A. E. 654. The notice of action may be given before the quashing of the conviction, though the action cannot be brought till after it, *Haylock v. S2)ark*, 1 E. B. 471. If the act done was within the jurisdiction of the Justice, then the declaration must allege malice, and want of reasonable and probable cause, 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 1. And in that case the conviction need not be set aside before the action is brought. But if the act was done without, or in excess of jurisdiction, the declaration need not allege malice, yet the conviction must be quashed before action brought, 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 2. If the Justice has doubts about his acting he may refuse to act until compelled by the Court of Queen's Bench, in which case he will be protected from an action, 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 6. Where a conviction and warrant of conviction were drawn up with blanks for costs at the time of the imprisonment, this being a mere irregularity, no action will lie unless malice is alleged, *Botts v. Ackroyd*, 28 L. J. 207 M. C. The action must be brought in the superior Court, at least if the defendant insist, 11 12 Vict. c. 44, Â 10. If the plea of not guilty by statute is pleaded, the particular statute

must be stated in the margin, *Eule PL T. T. 1853*. Full costs mean taxed costs, 5 6 Vict. c. 97, Â 2.

Offences committed within the jurisdiction of the English Admiralty are to be punished as if they were committed in the place where the offender is apprehended or in custody, 24 25 Vict. c. 2Q, Â 115. In offences punishable summarily, the shore between high and low water mark is within the ordinary jurisdiction of the county Justices, *Embleton v. Brovm*, 30 L. J. 136 Q. B.; 25 J. P. 38. In indictments for a subsequent offence, it is enough to allege generally a previous conviction at a certain time and place, and which is provable by certificate, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 116. When the offender is convicted of an indictable misdemeanour, he may be fined, and ordered to find game or fish in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, shall for every such offence forfeit the sum of 5?.

The Larceny Act contains an enactment precisely the same.

Right of Property in Poached Fish. In those cases where fish in a fishery are not protected by the before-mentioned statutory enactments, the only reliance must be on the common law. As already stated, it is only where the fish are in a trunk or small pond that the taking of them can amount to larceny. In other cases, the highest offence a trespasser can commit is a misdemeanour, if he take the fish in a pond or private fishery adjoining a dwelling-house, and an offence punishable by summary conviction and fine in fisheries not adjoining a dwelling-house. In all the cases except where a larceny is committed, the poacher or trespasser is at common law entitled to keep the fish he catches, for the property in them vests in him by virtue of the general rule that he who first catches a wild animal is entitled to the property thereof, even though such animal is caught by trespassing on another's ground, and by committing an offence. This rule, which was laid down by the Roman law, has been adopted by the law of England, and neither the Larceny Act, nor any other Act, alters it. The statute does not enact that the fish so caught shall belong to the owner sureties to keep the peace, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 117. Hard labour may be added as a punishment for any indictable offence, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 118. The Court may allow the costs of the prosecution for any indictable misdemeanour under the Act, as in cases of felony, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 121.

The mode of procedure is under Jervis's Act, 11 12 Vict. c. 43, which, for this purpose, is made applicable to Scotland as well as Ireland.

of the fishery or of the soil; all it does is to empower the owner of the fishery and his servants, not so much as to seize the fish if found in his possession, but only to seize and confiscate the fishing implements used by the poacher, if the poacher can be found on the fishery, and to arrest him in certain circumstances." With regard to game, the same general rule applies, except that there is a qualification to this extent, that if a poacher or trespasser start and kill, or catch game on one and the same person's lands, then the property in such game vests in the owner of the land, a doctrine laid down by Holt, C. J. in *Sutton v. Moody*, 1 L. Raym. 250. There is no trace of any such qualification as the doctrine of *ratione soli* having ever been recognised with reference to wild fish, and therefore the rule seems to remain unqualified at common law, that the poacher who catches fish even on another's private fishery (except where the offence is larceny) is the owner of such fish. He may incur penalties, or even

commit a misdemeanour in catching them, but when caught, the property in the fish so caught is his own, and the owner of the fishery or the soil cannot by action or any other remedy recover the fish. Moreover, it is to be observed, that there is no power given by any statute relating to fish, to seize the poached fish from a poacher, as there is in relation to game in certain circumstances."

The above doctrine as to fish generally applies to salmon, for the Salmon Fishery Act does not by any 1 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25; ante, p. 79.

2 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 103; cmte, p. 77.

' Paterson's Game Laws, p. 17; also Christian's Game Laws on this point. Holt's doctrine, being an exception, is not likely to be extended. Ibid, p. 64.

general clause enact that the poacher shall not be entitled to the fish he catches by his illegal trespasses. The statute is mainly cured against the lawful owners of the fisheries catching the fish by means which are declared illegal, and does not generally affect poachers. Nevertheless, in a few specified offences under that Act, the poacher, as well as the owner of the fishery, using certain illegal means there specified, is declared to forfeit the fish so caught.

Malicious Injuries to Fisheries. â Fisheries, as already stated, are to a great extent protected by the Larceny Act against invasion by poachers; they are also protected by the Malicious Injuries Act, 24 25 Vict, c. 97, Â 32, from wilful injuries. This enactment creates 1 Such as using damsâ not ancient fishing damsâ for catching salmon, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 12; catching in the head-race or tail-race of a mill, ibid; catching unclean salmon, Â 14; or young salmon, Â 15; catching salmon in annual close time, Â 17; or weekly close time, Â 21; but as to the last case, anglers are excepted. See the Act in Appendix, and Chap. VIII.

2 " "Whosoever shall unlawfully and maliciously cut through, break down, and otherwise destroy the dam, floodgate, or sluice of any fishpond, or of any water which shall be private property, or in which there shall be any private right of fishery, with intent thereby to take or destroy any of the fish in such pond or water, or so as thereby to cause the loss or destruction of any of the fish, or shall unlawfully and maliciously put any lime, or other noxious material, in any such pond or water, with intent thereby to destroy any of the fish that may then be, or that may thereafter be put therein, or shall unlawfully and maliciously cut through, break down, or otherwise destroy the dam or floodgate of any millpond, reservoir, or pool, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and being convicted thereof, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to be kept in penal servitude for any term not exceeding seven years, and not less than three years, or to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour, and with or without solitary confinement, and, if a male under the age of sixteen years, with or without whipping."â 24 25 Vict c. 97, Â 32.

three offences: 1. The destroying a fishpond with intent to take the fish. 2. Putting lime or other noxious material in the water with intent to destroy the fish. 3. The destroying a dam or floodgate. The last offence has no immediate bearing on a fishery, and need not be specially noticed.

Destroying Fishpond. â The offence of destroying a fishpond consists in maliciously cutting through the dam, c. of a water where there is a private fishery, but the intent, or at least the consequence, must be the loss or destruction of the fish. The older statute

of 9 Geo. I. c. 22, now repealed, was held to apply to wanton mischief, but not to cases where the cutting was used as a means of catching the fish; but now the latter case is expressly included. There is no necessity that the water be a pond kept for breeding the fish, though the former Act of 5 Geo. III. c. 14, \hat{A} 1, was so restricted. Nor need the water be fenced off and enclosed, as was necessary under 5 Geo. III. c. 14, \hat{A} 3.

The mischief done must be such as is reasonably calculated to cause the loss or destruction of the fish. It is not, however, necessary that any of the fish should have been actually destroyed, if either the intent existed, or the means used was reasonably calculated to destroy the fish."

Poisoning of Waters. \hat{a} The poisoning of waters in which there is a private right of fishery, with lime and similar 1 R. V. Ross, R. R. 10.

2 R. V. Carradine, R. R. 205. ' Lisle V. Brotmi, 1 Mai-sh. 127.

R. V. Bradford, 24 J. P. 374; 8 Cox, C. C. 309.

matter, vnth. intent to destroy the fish, is declared to be a misdemeanour. The word " material " mentioned in this enactment, seems comprehensive enough to include everything, ejusdem generis, with lime put into waters with malicious intent, and which has a tendency to kill fish. The malicious intent is to be inferred from the conduct of the parties in the circumstances, though no malice against the particular owner of the fishery need be proved. Abettors in such an offence are punishable like the principal offenders. No intent to injure a particular person need be alleged in the indictment, AVlien ever a person is found committing the offence, he may be immediately apprehended without warrant by any peace officer, or the owner of the property injured, or his servant, or any person authorized by him, and forthwith taken before some neighbouring Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with according to law. The provisions as to procedure under this enactment are identical with those under the Larceny Act."

There is a special enactment in the Salmon Fishery-Act, protecting salmon waters.

Other Enactments against Fouling Water. \hat{a} Besides the specific enactments above stated, for the protection of fisheries, there are some other enactments, which, though not primarily intended for the benefit of fisheries, may sometimes be brought in aid of them. Thus, the Waterworks' Clauses Act " imposes a penalty of 5Z. and

M58. " \hat{A} 56. = \hat{A} 60. \hat{A} 61.

' Ante, p. 82.

6 Sec post, Ch. VIII.

7 10 Vict. c. 17, \hat{A} 61.

20?. a day upon all who throw rubbish into, or otherwise foul a stream, reservoir, or aqueduct belonging to a water company; and gas manufacturers who cause or suffer to flow into such waters their gas washings, forfeit 200l. and 20?. per day. So putting filth or rubbish into waters under the manauement of a local board of health, is punishable with a penalty of 1l and 205. per day.- So gas manufacturers who foul " any aqueduct, pond, or place for water," incur a penalty of 200Z. and 20l. per day, which must be sued for within six months after the offence.

Stealing Oysters. \hat{a} In order to protect oysters from poachers, the Larceny Consolidation Act contains a special enactment 1 10 Vict. c. 17, \hat{A} 62, 63.

2 11 12 Vict. c. 63, \hat{A} 80.

3 18 19 Vict. c. 121, Â Â 23, 24.

â "Whosoever shall steal any oysters or brood from any oyster bed, laying, or fisheiy, being the property of any other person, and sufficiently marked out or known as such, shall be guilty of felony, and being con acted thereof, shall be liable to be punished as in the case of simple larceny.

"And whosoever shall unlawfully and wilfully use any dredge, or any net, instrument, or engine whatsoever, within the limits of any oyster bed, laying, or fi. shery, being the property of any other person, and sufficiently marked out or known as such, for the purpose of taking oysters or oyster brood, although none shall be actually taken, or shall unlawfully and wilfully with any net, instrument, or engine, drag upon the ground or soil of any such fishery, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and being convicted thereof, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three months, with or without hard labour, and with or without solitary confinement.

"And it shall be sufficient in any indictment to describe, either by name or otherwise, the bed, laying, or fishery, in wliich any of the said offences. shall have been committed, without stating the same to be in any particular parish, town. ship, or vill.

"Provided that nothing in the section contained shall prevent any

Oyster Spawn. â By the ancient statutes 13 Rich. II. St. 1, c. 19, and 17 Rich. II. c. 9, the spawn or brood of oysters were protected from destruction. At first it was contended that oysters were not fish within the meaning of those Acts, but were rather part of the soil to whicli they adhered. But those statutes have been repealed entirely by the Salmon Fishery Act, 2-4 25 Vict. c. 109, and now there is no restriction on the taking of oyster spawn by the party who is entitled to fish for the oysters.

Sejmrafiion of Oysters from Floating Fish. â "Whoever has a right to fish in a particular water, has a right to take all kinds of fish without distinction. It is a common practice to let the oyster fishery separately from the right to take the floating fish, in which case each fisherman must use due care not to injure the other's rights.- Oysters differ chiefly from other fish in the characteristic that they adhere more or less to the soil, and they were not comprehended within the description of " sea-fish " in the older statutes, that expression being 2)rimd facie interpreted to mean floating fish. "With regard to such shell-fish as are found on the shore, there is no general right of the public to take these, any more than there is a right to take sand or seaweed, lor both are part of the soil; though as regards person from catching or fishing for any lloating fish witliin the limits of any oyster fishery with any net, instrument, or engine adapted for taking floating fish only."â 24. 25 Viet. c. 96, Â 26.

1 Muijor of Mahlon v. Woolvet, 12 A. E. 13.

- Seymour Y. L. Coiirtcnaij, 5 Burr. 2S14; Eoijers. Allen, 1 Camp. 309.

3 Bridger v. Richardson, 2 M. S. 568.

â Bagot V. Orr, 2 B. P. 472.

sand, a custom may be established by the inhabitants of a particular vill, or parish, to take or dig sand to repair highways, to ballast ships, C."-

Oysters in reality are cultivated like a trade, and may be classed either with chattels, or wild animals tamed, and hence the penalty for stealing property when visibly marked out and appropriated, is severe. Nevertheless, there must be proved against the poacher

some knowledge that the oysters are the property of some individual. It was held under an old statute of 3 Jas. I. c. 12, that taking oysters in order to remove them to another quarter, was not within the description of those who used a destructive engine; but under the 24 25 Vict. 96, \hat{A} 26, if the taking is felonious, or wilfully and unlawfully, the object is immaterial.

Navigating near Oyster Beds \hat{A} When an oyster bed is situated in a navigable river, where vessels are in the practice of navigating, it often happens that injury is done by grounding of the vessel. The rule is, that those who navigate are entitled to go upwards and downwards, though they might not be able to reach the port or the deep water in one tide without grounding, and even if such grounding subjected them to compensation for injury done, that does not affect the nature of the right in respect to time of enjoyment. The river being a highway, the public have a right to use it at all times. It is possible that unreasonably large masses of oysters deposited in the bed of a navigable river would be a nuisance. *Padwick v. Knight*, 7 Exch. 854; *Mayor of Lynn v. Taylor*, 3 Lev. 160; *Tyson v. Smith*, 9 A. E. 406. *Bridger v. Richardson*, 2 M. S. 568.

A river may amount to a nuisance and obstruct navigation. Nevertheless, those who navigate are bound to use due care and skill, so as to avoid doing more damage than is actually necessary, and if they wilfully run against oyster beds which they know to be at a particular spot, and which they might have avoided, they are liable to an action on the case.

Corporation Property in Oyster Beds. \hat{A} Oyster fisheries frequently belong to corporations who have power under some grant or custom to make bye-laws for the regulation of the fishery. In such cases illegal bye-laws are sometimes made, an instance of which occurred in the case of the Free Fishery of Whitstable. This company held the oyster fishery within the manor and royalty of Whitstable, Kent, from time out of mind as tenants under the lord, on payment of a certain annual rent. The lord held a court of dredging, which used to make orders for regulating the company and oyster fishery, \hat{A} with fines and penalties for the breach of such orders. They made a bye-law that no freeman should send oysters to market from any other ground than that of the company, under a penalty of 10s., and until such penalty were paid, he should be excluded from all shares of the profits. It was held that this bye-law was illegal and void, for, assuming the power to impose penalties, this superadded an extraordinary mode of recovering payment, which went beyond the law. *Bayley, J.*, said the effect of such a bye-law would be to mulct the party to the whole extent of his profits.

Mayor of Colchester v. Brooke, 7 Q. B. 339. = ILid.

\hat{A} *Adley v. Eeles*, 2 M. S. 53. See also *Miller v. Eunt*, 15 C. B. 1, and *O'By*, p. 175. however great they may be supposing he had not the means of paying 10s.

Close Season as to Oysters. \hat{A} Oyster fishing under the convention between Great Britain and France 31 32 V. c. 5 see post, p. 496), opens on 1st September, and closes with the 15th June in each year. This close season is confined to the part of the sea included between a line drawn from the North Foreland Light to Dunkirk, and a line drawn from the Land's End to Ushant. During that period it is unlawful to have an oyster dredge on board any boat in that part of the sea, unless tied up and sealed by

the Customs authorities. In all other parts of the sea there is no restriction on oyster dredging as regards the time of the year.

Many enactments are contained in the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868, 31 32 Y. c. 45, calculated to protect oyster beds more effectually, and in addition to the enactments of the Larceny Act specified, ante, p. 90. These enactments will be found at length, post, p. 471, together with the provisions authorizing grants by the Board of Trade of a several oyster and mussel fishery in the sea-shore.

Owners of Fishery clearing River. It has been said by Hawkins,¹ that "if a river be stopped, to the nuisance of the country, and none appear bound by prescription to clear it, those who have the piscary, and the neighbouring towns who have a common passage and easement therein, may be compelled to do it." But no authority is given for this statement as regards the owner of a piscary; and even the owner of a sunken ship which obstructs the navigation is bound to do nothing more than erect a buoy over the place.

¹ 1 Hawk. r. C. c. 75, Â 13.

Harmond v. Pearson, 1 Camp. 615; R. v. Watts, 2 Esp. 675. If owing to a wear in a navigable river becoming stopped up, annoyances should be caused to adjoining owners, the Commissioners of Sewers may have jurisdiction to compel a repair." 1 A. M. IV. c. 22, Â 10.

If Quo Warranto lies to try Right to Fishery. There seems no authority for the dictum that a quo warranto lies to try the right to a several fishery.

Abating Obstructions of Fishery. The right of abating a nuisance is incident generally to all substantive rights of property. Blackstone observes, "Whatever unlawfully annoys or does damage to another is a nuisance, and such nuisance may be abated, that is, taken or removed by the party aggrieved thereby, so as he commits no riot in the doing of it. If a house or wall is erected so near to mine that it stops my ancient lights, which is a private nuisance, I may enter my neighbour's land, and peaceably pull it down. Or if a new gate be erected across the public highway, which is a common nuisance, any private individual passing that way may remove it. And the reason why the law allows this private and summary method of doing one's self justice is because injuries of this kind, which obstruct or annoy such things as are of daily convenience and use, require an immediate remedy, and cannot wait for the slow progress of the ordinary forms of justice." The Lord Holt, C. J. threw out a dictum which may have been applicable to former times (Warren v. Mathcios, 1 Salk. 357) that a quo warranto might be brought to try the right of the grantee under the Crown to an exclusive fishery in the river Exe, it is not likely the Court of Queen's Bench would, in the exercise of its discretion, give leave to issue such a writ in modern times. Per Bayley, J. in E. v. Ogden, 10 B. C. 233. In modern practice the writ is confined to cases of usurping an office, whether created by charter alone, or by the Crown with the consent of Parliament, provided the office be of a public nature and a substantive office. Barley v. the Queen, 12 Cl. F. 541. This rule is the less likely to be relaxed, seeing that other remedies are available.

3 Bl. Com. 5, generality of this statement has been materially contracted by modern decisions. For it has been held that in the case of a nuisance on a highway, a private individual cannot of his own authority abate it, unless it does him a special

injur, and lie can only interfere with it so far as is necessary to enable him to exercise his right of passing along the liighway, and no further J. And in the case of a private nuisance, for example, leaving filth near the windows of a dwelling-house, one cannot resort to the remedy of abatement without first giving notice, unless the party was the original wrongdoer, or was guilty of some default in not performing some obligation incumbent on him.² In short, to justify taking the law into one's own hands, there must be some pressing danger to life, health, or liberty, which cannot, without serious detriment, wait to be redressed by the ordinary course of an action or other civil remedy. In this dew an abatement is a remedy which requires such delicate handling to escape the consequences of the least abuse, excess, or oppression, and is so seldom legitimate, except in very strong and peculiar cases, that it is not to be recommended as a remedy at all It will be seen that, as regards its application to rights of fishery, it is in general available only where the removal of the obstruction or nuisance is a matter of pressing urgency, which rcquhes a remedy other than what is usual in other wrongs. If, for example, a lessee 1 *Dimes v. Pctlaj*, 15 Q. B. 276; *Davic3 v. Mann*, 10 M. W. 546; *Mayor of Colchester v. Brooke*, 7 Q. B. 339; *Bridge v. Grand Junction R Co.* 3 M. W. 244.

- *Jones V. Williams*, 11 M. " V. 176.

of a fishery exercises the right of fishery as a necessary livelihood or trade, and an obstruction of the right, by the construction of a wear or otherwise, prevents its exercise, he might be justified in resorting to this remedy. Or if a tenant of a manor has a common of piscary for the sustenance of his family, he may in some cases require to abate a nuisance, taking care, however, not to interfere with the soil, which he has no right to do. But in the ordinary case, as between proprietors of a fishery in a private river, the necessity of abating a nuisance will seldom be justifiable, since an obstruction can scarcely be supposed to press upon life, health, or liberty; therefore the ordinary remedies by action or suit must be preferred.

Even though engines are used which are illegal by statute, this gives no right to any person to abate them as nuisances if not nuisances at common law. Thus no one, not even the conservators, without express authority under some statute, can destroy the engines, and seize and carry away the fish so caught; they can only pursue the remedy given by that statute. Express power, however, has been given by the Salmon Fisheries Act to the owner of a fishery or the subjacent land to seize the nets, c. of poachers."-"

Distraining Nets of Trespassers. â It has been said hat the owner of a several fisheiy can at common law distrain the nets and implements of trespassers damage feasant. There is, however, weak authority for this

Bulbrook v. Goodere, 3 Burr. 1768. " 2 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25, ante, p. 79.

doctrine.! It cannot be safely laid domii that the nets, fisliing-rods, c. of trespassers on a several fishery can at common law be seized and taken from the trespasser by the owner of the fishery, even where he is also owner of the soil; the utmost that can be done hrevi manu is to push the trespasser with his implements off the locus in quo. But the Larceny Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25,2 as already stated, gives a limited remedy of this kind. The only remedy at common law is an action of trespass. And it need scarcely be observed that d fortiori the owner of a free fishery, or a person having

only a common of fishery, can still less take the law into his own hand, *1 Rcyndl v. Champernomi, Cro. (.as. 228, â* which is as follows: *â " Trespass for taking and cutting of his nets and oars. The defendant justifies, for that he was seised in fee of a several piscary; and that the defendant, with divers others, endeavoured with their oars to row upon his water, and with their nets to catch his fish; and for the safeguard of his fishing he took and cut the nets and oars, c. Thereupon the plaintiff demurs. It was moved by Whitlock that this plea is not good, for he cannot by such colour cut the nets and oars. And of this opinion was all the Court, for the reason supra. But he might have taken the nets and oars and detained them as damage feasant, to stop their further fishing. "Whereupon it was adjudged for the plaintiff'."* This was at most an obiter dictum. It may be assumed that the owner of the several fishery had also the soil. Now to justify a detainer damage feasant, the nets and oars must have been doing the mischief of themselves; whereas the report obviously assumes some one was at the time using the nets and oars, in which case the utmost remedy the common law would allow would be, to entitle the owner of the fishery to use force in pushing or driving away the party so trespassing, and his implements along with him. But the chattels in question could not be taken, unless they were at the moment actually obstructing the owner of the fishery in his user of the fishery, in which case it would more properly be called the abatement of a nuisance than the detainer of things damage feasant. At all events, the chattels could not be taken in violation of the party using them as a seizure and detainer of damage feasant generally implies.

a Ante, p. 79.

and seize the fishing gear of trespassers in the manner above described.

Ejectment. *â* The action of ejectment is the remedy for recovering possession of a corporeal tenement when the party has the right of entry. Ejectment, however, will not in general lie for a fishery, for a fishery is only a profit à prendre. Ejectment will lie in those cases only where the soil covered with water is claimed, for the soil will carry the fishery with it if they have not been dissevered. The observation of Ashurst, J. that ejectment lies for a fishery, no doubt had reference to a case where the soil and fishery went together.

Remedies by Action. *â* The ordinary civil remedies for obstructions or invasions of the right of fishery are actions of trespass and trespass on the case, and in equity injunctions and bills of peace. It depends on the nature of the right, and the nature of the invasion or nuisance, which of the two actions at law is the appropriate remedy; though the importance of distinguishing between the two forms of action no longer exists, since different forms of action may be joined together.

It will be recollected that rights of fishery are substantially of three kinds. First, there is the common fishery, which is the right of every member of the public to fish in the sea and navigable rivers without obstruction in all parts thereof, except where some *' Wadibj V. Nevjtem, 8 lilod. 276; Herbert v. Lawjilmjn, Cro. Cas. 492. â n. y. Old Alrcsford, 1 T. E. 358. See ante, p. 64.*

individual has a legal right to a several fishery there. Secondly, there is the several fishery, which is the exclusive right of fishing either in a part of the sea or in a navigable river, or in a private stream; it may or may not be accompanied with the right to the soil. Thirdly, there is the free fishery, being a right of fishing concurrently with one or

more other individuals. And a common of piscary is substantially the same right, the distinction chiefly consisting in the supposed origin of these two rights respectively, the place where the fishery exists being the soil of another.

Obstructions of Common Fishery. — First, obstructions of common fishery. The sea and navigable rivers being open to all the public, each person has an equal right to fish in all parts, except where a several fishery of ancient origin legally exists. The rights of all being equal, it follows that no individual can acquire a prescriptive right to fish in any particular part of the sea or stream. The maxim will be, first come first served. If one fisher were to interfere with another, it could only be by persisting in fishing too near a spot where another has first taken up his position, and thereby wilfully preventing him exercising his legitimate rights. The person so interfering would be liable to an action on the case, if not to an indictment. No person in modern times can set up prescription as the foundation of a right to attempt to fix nets, or construct a weir or trap in a particular spot" in the sea or a navigable river, any more than a man can prescribe for a right of constantly

See ante p. 17, et seq. 2 Ward V. Cresswell, WUles, 265.

standing in a particular spot in a highway. As such attempt tends to obstruct all others who may wish to fish in the same spot, he would not only be liable to an action on the case by any person specially injured, but he may be subjected to an indictment on the prosecution of any person whatever, though for obvious reasons such a remedy has probably never been resorted to.

In regard to conflicts between the public and individuals, the burden is on the individual who claims a several fishery in the sea or a public navigable river, to show a case of some nicety as to the exact form of remedy arose in this way (*Young v. Hichens*, 6 Q. B. 606):—The plaintiff was fishing for eels, and had drawn his net partially round the fish, leaving a space of about seven fathoms open, which he was about to close with a stop-net. Two boats belonging to the plaintiff were also stationed at the opening, and splashing the water about, for the purpose of terrifying the fish from passing through this opening. At this time the defendant rowed his boat up to the opening, and so prevented the plaintiff taking the fish. The plaintiff brought an action of trespass, on the ground that he had at the time acquired possession of the fish, and that the defendant took them from him; and so the point arose whether the circumstances amounted to custody or possession by the plaintiff of the fish. The Court held there was no possession by the plaintiff. Lord Denning said, "It appeared almost certain that the plaintiff would have had possession of the fish but for the act of the defendant; but it is quite certain that he had not possession—he had not acquired actual power over the fish. It might be the defendant acted unjustifiably and did a wrongful act, for which he might be liable in a proper form of action." Tateson, J.:— "We cannot support the plaintiff's issue, unless we are prepared to say that all but reducing into possession is the same as reducing into possession. Whether the plaintiff has any cause of action at all is not clear; possibly there may be a remedy under the statutes," Wightman, J. added, "If the property in the fish was vested in the plaintiff by his partially enclosing them, but leaving an opening in the nets, he would be entitled to maintain trover for fish which escaped through that very opening." This case occurred when forms of action were important.

show that he has enjoyed the fishery from time immemorial, and hence ancient user is the main point of dispute.

Proof of Ancient User. The chief substantial interference with a common fishery is where a wear or similar contrivance exists. As already stated, such wears are *j' à terre* and *facie* a nuisance, and illegal; but if they have existed from a period antecedent to Magna Charta, under a grant from the Crown of the right, they are legal. If, therefore, the owner of a wear were indicted for an obstruction, or if, as would be the more convenient remedy, an action on the case were brought against him, or if his wear were pulled down, and he brought an action of trespass, he is bound to plead and prove his title or prescriptive user, which presumes a title. Such a prescriptive right may be appurtenant to a manor. In proving the title, possession as of right for thirty years and upwards is a *prima facie* title. But the case will be weak unless ancient titles are produced, recognising or assuming a grant from the Crown, as well as evidence of long enjoyment. In such cases the principle applicable is, that where a person is shown for a series of years to have been in the undisputed enjoyment of property, or of any of its rights, incidents, or immunities, exercising the rights of property, and performing its duties, as it is not easy to believe that a person would thus be left by the true owner long and freely to enjoy what was not his own, a jury will be

J Rogers V. Allen, 1 Camp. 309.

3 O'Neill V. Alun, 9 Jr. C. L. Rep. 182."

allowed to presume a grant, or surrender, or release, or even a matter of record, according to the nature of the case.

In regard to all ancient grants and documents, modern usage is evidence to show what was the meaning of such grant or document, whenever a question arises as to what passed by a particular grant. Proof of modern user, carried back as far as living memory can be reasonably expected to apply it, is evidence from which still more ancient user may be inferred; and unless there be something in the nature of the subject-matter or in the other evidence to encounter the inference, or to suggest the necessity of other proof, may be evidence from which a jury may presume prescriptive title. Again, in favour of long possession, a jury will be justified in presuming a grant or patent from the Crown, or even an Act of Parliament.

Ancient leases of a fishery are good evidence for a claimant, for they are acts of ownership, showing the ancient state of the possession. So bills and answers in chancery between parties litigating the title may be admissible. And so verdicts in former actions, but not an award, unless the party or his predecessors were privy to such award."

1 Per Hayes, J. and Greene, B. Little v. Wingfidd, 11 Ir. C. L. Rep. N. S. 63; Mayor of Hull v. Horner, Cowp. 102; Lo2czy. Andrew, 3 M. Ry. 329 a; Roe v. Ireland, 10 East. 284.

2 Duke of Beaufort v. Mayor of Swansea, 3 Exch. 413.

3 O'Neill V. Allen, 9 Ir. C. L. Rep. 132.

4 Mulcolmsen v. O'Dea, 9 H. L. Cas.; 9 L. T. N. S. 93.

5 Ibid.

6 Wenraan v. Mackenzie, 5 E. B. 447; Evans v. Rees, 10 A. E. 151; Kinnersley v. Orxje, 2 Doug. 517.

As a general rule, ancient grants when vague are construed mainly by the light of subsequent usage.

1 In an action of trespass for lircaking and entering a close covered with water, the defendant pleaded that it was an arm of the sea, where all could fish. At the trial ancient grants of wreck were produced by the plaintiff, who proved that for forty years and upwards he raised an embankment, used the seaweed and gi-avel, and the inhabitants of Poole had never made any opposition. Dallas, C. J., *Chad v. Tilsed*, 5 Moore, 185, laid down the law thus: "Where a grant has been produced, no usage, however long, can alter or countervail the terms of such grant, for what is done under usurpation cannot constitute a legal usage. The fundamental rule laid down is, that when an ancient grant contains general words, the best exposition of it is by constant and uninterrupted usage. Unless, therefore, an usage and enjoyment for forty years can be shown to have originated in usurpation, it is evidence from which usage anterior to that time may be presumed. Here the modern usage, as connected with the ancient, affords a strong exposition of the meaning of the original grant of Henry II. The general rule is, that if the language of a grant be obscure, or its construction doubtful, general usage may be resorted to to expound, although not to controul or contradict the instrument, and such usage is a strong practical exposition of the meaning of the parties. Ancient grants, therefore, are to be construed by evidence of subsequent usage, however general such grants may be, reducing it to a mere question of fact as to the mode of right, which has been generally and usually exercised. I also agree that if usage be traced no higher than forty years, and applied to establish an exclusive right over an arm of the sea, such general usage for that period would not put an end to or destroy the rights of the public to fish there, but for the last forty years the evidence adduced at the trial was as strong as it possibly could be to establish the plaintiff's claim as to the usage since that time, as the wall was then raised by J. Sturt, from whom he purchased, and the embankment made in the sight of the corporation and all the inhabitants of the town of Poole, and his was a strong act of ownership. It has been asked if the Corporation of Poole had been in confederacy with Mr. Sturt when the wall was built, and did not choose to interfere with the subsequent usurpation by him and the plaintiff, whether it would deprive the fishermen of that town of their right to fish over the locus in quo? Certainly not. But if it touched the interest of all the inhabitants of Poole, and so general a right had before existed, it must then be presumed as a matter of course that any usurpation of that right had before existed." And Kiciardson, J. said, "An usage of forty years' duration is not only evidence for that period, but affords a 106 **NSHEEY LAWS OF ENGLAND.**

Two Competing Grants, It sometimes happens that two competing grants from the Crown are set up. In such a case it is for the jury to presume from the evidence whether there had not been a sub-grant from the predecessor of one of the parties to the other. Thus in the river Loy, in Sligo, the plaintiff in a case gave evidence of a grant from the Crown which covered the whole right claimed, but there were proofs of adverse user in the defendant supported by parole evidence. The Court held that the difficulty could be got over by presuming that the plaintiff's ancestors made a sub-grant to the defendants, which was lost.

presumption of a similar and anterior usage if nothing be shown to the contrary."

1 Little V. Wingfidd, 11 Ir. C. L. R. 81, 2. In this case a written grant was overthrown by parole evidence of adverse user, and on this last point O'Brien, J, observed: "In the present case it does not appear how the legal origin of the long possession and enjoyment of the fishery claimed by the defendant can be accounted for except on the presumption of a grant. And, in my opinion, it is not necessary in leaving the question of a presumption of the grant to state either the names of the parties by whom or the time when such grant should be presumed to have been made. Instances may occur in which an uninterrupted possession and enjoyment of an incorporeal hereditament for over two hundred years would be established without being able to show the period, or to account for the commencement or origin of such possession. In such a case the presumption of some grant having been made would be almost conclusive, and yet it may be impossible from the length of time to furnish the jury with any materials whatever for deciding at what time prior to the earliest period when such possession could be proved to have been had, or by what party such grant might be presumed to have been made. The result of the plaintiffs proposition would be, that the greater the length of possession, and the stronger the ground for presuming a grant, the greater would be the difficulty of a jury acting on such presumption. All the jurors may be satisfied that there had been a grant executed at some antecedent period by some party competent to do so, and yet they may not agree as to the period when or the party by whom it had been executed.

Where two parties claim the exclusive right, the mode of proving that the entire fishery belongs to one of the parties, is the same as proving that the soil belongs to one, contrary to the ordinary presumption. Thus, in an action of trespass, *quare clausum fregit* the plaintiff claimed the whole bed of the river flowing between his and the defendant's land, the defendant contending that he was entitled to half. It was held that evidence of acts of ownership exercised by the plaintiff upon the beds and banks of the river on the defendant's side lower down the stream, and where it flowed between the plaintiff's land and a farm of C adjoining the defendant's land, and also of repairs done by the plaintiff to a fence which divided C's farm from the river, and was in continuation of a fence dividing the defendant's land from the river, was admissible for the plaintiff."

Such a restriction upon this doctrine of presumption would, in many cases, nullify its principles and defeat the objects for which it was established."

1 *Jams V. Williams*, 2 M. W. 329.

On this subject Parke, B. said: "Ownership may be proved by proof of possession, and that can be shown only by acts of enjoyment of the land itself; but it is impossible in the nature of things to confine the evidence to the very precise spot on which the alleged trespass may have been committed. Evidence may be given of acts done on other parts, provided there is such a common character of locality between those parts and the spots in question as would raise a reasonable inference in the minds of the jury that the place in dispute belonged to the plaintiff if the other parts did. In ordinary cases, to prove this title to a close the claimant may give in evidence acts of ownership in any part of the same inclosure, for the ownership of one part causes a reasonable inference that the other belongs to the same person, though it by no means follows as a necessary consequence, for different persons may have balks of land in

the same inclosure, but this is a fact to be submitted to the jury. It has been said that the defendant had no interest to dispute acts of ownership not opposite his own land, but the ground on which such acts are admissible is not the

Opposite Riparian Owners. In one case the owner of lands on one side of a fresh-water inland river brought an action against the owner of lands on the other side, for breaking and entering his several fishery. The defendant had fished with a net nearer the plaintiffs side than his own. The plaintiff produced evidence of the appointment of water-bailiffs by himself, who had watched the river for upwards of forty years and warned off strangers, and proved that he enjoyed the right of fishing with nets for upwards of forty years over the whole river. The defendant, however, proved title to the soil in his half of the river, and therefore either to fish in half of the river, or as tenant in common of the whole river, but in consequence of removing to a residence at a distance, he had not exercised his right for about thirty-five years; and the defendant's title was sustained.

acquiescence of any party; they are admissible of themselves *proprio vigore*, for they tend to prove that he who does them is the owner of the soil; though if they are done in the absence of all persons interested to dispute them, they are of less weight. That observation applies only to the effect of the evidence. What weight the jury might attach to it is another question." *Ih.* 332. See ante, p. 104. A

Lefroy, C. J. thus laid down the law applicable: " Each party is entitled to the soil of the river up to the middle of the stream *iusque ad medium filum aquæ*, and is therefore entitled also, as a matter of right, to the fishing therein, not as an easement in *alicui solo*, but as a right of fishery in the party's own land; and inasmuch as the river is not divided by any abutments marking the respective rights of the parties, and as the fish ran from one side to the other, this right of fishery is in its very nature a species of tenancy in common. The plaintiff claims not a tenancy in common in the fishery, nor a right of fishery half-way over the river, but the exclusive right of fishery in the whole river. But as there is a tenancy in common of one kind or another, an exclusive right of fishery is not to be presumed from the mere fact of the plaintiff's possession or enjoyment and use of the whole fishery, by spreading his nets across the river from one side to

The law is well settled that where a stream divides the lands of two proprietors, each can only fish, whether with nets, rods, or any other implement, up to the middle of the stream and no further. If either casts his net or his angling line beyond the *medium filum*, he is liable to an action of trespass, and if there is no claim of right to the whole fishery, he may (if he in person trespass beyond the middle line) even commit the criminal offence of poaching; but unless his act amounts to an offence under 24 & 25 Vict. c. 90, s. 2-1, he cannot be punished summarily, or given into custody.

Non-user of Fishery. Can a fishery derived by express grant from the Crown be lost by non-user? This point was raised in an Irish case, but was not decided. Pigot, C. J. observed: " In a variety of instances, no doubt, patent rights to offices may become forfeited by non-user, that is, by the non-performance of the duties of the office granted by the Crown. But in this case the question does not arise; there was no evidence of non-user; there was an absence of evidence of user as the other,

for each of the tenants in common had a right to do what the plaintiff had done here. If, indeed, one of the tenants in common had erected altments in the middle of the river, or by any other act had entirely destroyed and put an end to the enjoyment in common, that might be an ouster; but the mere user by one tenant in common of that which belongs to them both in common can never create or raise the presumption of a grant; and to hold that the tenant in common who does not exercise his right is, after thirty years, to be presumed by the mere non-user to have made a grant of it to his co-tenant in common, would indeed be a monstrous result." *Beauman v. Kinscua* 8 Ir. C. L. R. 291.

Evidence of orders to one's water-bailiffs is not admissible in aid of title, without proof of acts done by the bailiffs in pursuance of those orders. *Beauman v. Kinscua*, 11 Ir. C. L. R. 241.

Ante, p. 73, et seq.

to a period, to the greater part of which it was impossible, and to the remainder (the latter part) of which it was very difficult, to apply the testimony of living witnesses, and as to none of which was there any ground for imputing that there was any documentary evidence which was withheld; every day or every year cannot be made the subject of distinct testimony in inquiries of this nature." 1 Non-user at intervals is quite compatible with retaining the right, for the owner of a fishery is not bound to fish and exercise his right. There is nothing to prevent his dedicating the right to the public, and if the non-user is coupled with proof of the public exercising the right undisturbed for several years, this may be good evidence of dedication, as in the analogous case of a right of way; but, as a general rule, the public cannot lose a public right by non-user.

Remedies as to Several Fishery. The action of trespass is the appropriate remedy for invading a several fishery.

It has been said that in order to maintain trespass, it is sufficient if the party, at the time when the act complained of was done, has the actual or constructive possession of the thing which is the subject of the trespass, and that the owner of a several fishery has the exclusive right of taking the fish within particular limits, and thereby has the constructive possession of all fish within those limits, and may therefore in trespass 1 *O'Neill v. Allen*, 8 Ir. C. L. R. 132.

2 See ante, p. 19. *Vooght v. Winch*, 2 15. Aid. G62.

3 *Smith v. Miller*, 1 T. 11. 480.

describe them as his fish. But the true ground on which trespass lies for breaking a several fishery, even though the soil belongs to another, is, that the plaintiff is entitled to the exclusive possession of the water for the purpose of fishing there. Thus, a declaration recited that defendant with force and arms broke and entered a fishery, to wit the sole and exclusive fishery of the plaintiff in a certain part of a river then flowing and being over the soil of one F., and then fished for fish in the said fishery of the plaintiff, and the fish of the said fishery of plaintiff there found being in the said fishery chased and disturbed, and it was held by the Court of Exchequer Chamber, that the words "sole and exclusive fishery" were at any rate after verdict equivalent to several fishery, and that the statement that the soil was in F. did not vitiate the count or render it necessary to deduce title from the owner of the fee. Moreover that trespass lay for the injury described.

Smith V. Kemp, 2 Salk. 637; Child v. Greenhill, Cro. Cas. 553; Sutton V. Moody, 1 L. Raym. 250; Seymour v. L. Courtney, 5 Bur. 2814; Duke of Somerset v. Fogiceu, 5 B. C. 875, 1 D. R. 347.

2 Holford V. Bailey, 13 Q. B. 426.

Where the action of trespass is for breaking and entering the several fishery and taking fish, the taking of the fish is mere matter of aggravation; and the same importance is not now attributed to the want of a definite statement of the number of fish taken as anciently. In Playter's case, 5 Co. Rep. 34 h, it was held that the taking was a separate cause of action, and the omission of the nature and number of the fish was matter of substance.

In declaring in trespass, it used to be common to add a *contumendo*, i. e. that the defendant continued the trespass for a certain time; *Fontleroy v. Aylmer*, 1 L. R. 239. This is, however, in general, mere matter of aggravation, and need not now be pleaded to; but formerly, unless the *continuando* was certain, and expressed the quantity and quality of fish taken, judgment was arrested. *Uowel v. Reynolds*, 1 Vent. 329.

Remedy as to Free Fishery. — Where a party has not a several fishery, but a free fishery only, i. e. a right coextensive with the rights of others, much depends on

In the older cases, the action of trespass was brought for taking the plaintiff's fishes, and such a declaration was held good as regards a several fishery, because the plaintiff had a local property in the fishes. *Pouxfen v. Crispin*, 1 Vent. 122.

If a prescriptive right of fishing is set up as a defence to an action of trespass, the plea must state what kind of fishery is claimed, and to which estate it is appurtenant. *Anon. Hardr.* 407.

Where to an action of trespass for breaking a several fishery the defendant pleads *liberum tenementum*, the plaintiff may reply that it is his own freehold, and not that of the defendant. *Lambert v. Sirother*, Willes, 218.

Where an action of trespass is brought against five for fishing in a several and free fishery, one of the defendants may plead property in his master, and that he did it by his command, and traverse the right of free fishery stated in the declaration, and the defendant may reply *de injuria*. *Wine v. Eider*. 2 Mod. 67.

Where the plaintiff brought an action of trespass for fishing in the plaintiff's fishery, and the defendant pleaded that the locus in quo was an arm of the sea, in which every subject of the realm had the liberty and privilege of free fishing, and the plaintiff replied a prescription for the sole and several right of fishing, and traversed that every subject had the liberty and privilege of free fishing in the locus in quo, it was held this was a bad traverse, which the defendant might pass by in his rejoinder, and traverse the prescriptive right of the plaintiff. *Richardson V. Mayor of Orford*, 2 H. Bl. 187 (reversing the judgment of the Court below, in *Mayor of Orford v. Richardson*, 4 T. R. 437).

In an action of trespass for throwing down a weir appurtenant to the plaintiff's fishery, the defendant pleaded that the weir was erected across a navigable river, and was a nuisance and obstructed the navigation, and the defendant prostrated the same. The plaintiff replied that the part of the river in question was not a public navigable river, nor had the public a right of navigating there. Rejoinder, that when the channel of

the river was chok'jd up, the lieges could go over the part in question. Sur-rejoinder, that the public had no right to navigate at that point. Issue thereon. *Williains v. Wilcox*, 8 A. E. 314. It was held in this case that it was not necessary for the plaintiff to set out in his replication how or by what grant the locus in quo became other than, and wholly distinct from, the channel in which the right and user of public common navigation existed. *Ibid*.

the nature and origin of the title, as to what is the proper remedy. As already explained, a free fishery is a right which is not exclusive, but co-extensive with the rights of others, and in general it implies no right to the soil. It is quite possible, however, to suppose a case where both the soil and the fishery are in several owners, in which case they must be joint owners or tenants in common, and their remedy against a trespasser would be by a joint action, inasmuch as the wrong would be an entire thing. If the soil was in A and A had merely a free fishery in the water, then he would be able to maintain an action of trespass against a stranger, by virtue of such ownership of the soil, and yet each of the others entitled to the free fishery could only have an action on the case for disturbance.

It was laid down that trespass does not lie for taking the plaintiff's fish in his free fishery, even after verdict, and judgment will be arrested. And generally in order to support an action of trespass to goods, the plaintiff must at the time of the act committed have either the actual or constructive possession of the goods.² An illustration of constructive possession is where the lord of a manor brings trespass for an estray or wreck taken by a stranger before seizure by the lord, and an executor has a constructive possession of the testator's goods on the death of the testator."

It has, however, been sometimes said or assumed 1 *Vptvii V. Dankbis*, 3 Mod. 07. 2 *Smith V. Willcs*, 1 T. R. 480.

3 *Ibid*.

4 *Smith V. Kemp*, 2 Salk. 637; Co. Litt. 4 h. 122 a; 2 Bl. Cora. 40; *Child V. Greenhill*, Cro. Car. 554; *Vivian v. Blake*, 11 East, 263.

that trespass lies for breaking a free fishery, and many cases will be found of actions of trespass for a several fishery in one count, and a free fishery in another count; and Parke, B. said that used to be the common practice. But it will be found that it depends on how the term was defined, whether those cases are authorities. If the definition above used for the reasons already mentioned be adopted, viz. that a free fishery is a fishery where several persons have a co-extensive right, but the soil is not in them, it will be obvious that trespass is not the proper action, except where he who is also owner of the soil sues, the others having only an action on the case for disturbance. Practically, however, the distinction is now of no great consequence, seeing that different forms of actions can be joined.²

Obstruction of Common of Fishery. Where a party is entitled to a common of fishery which is interfered with, his remedy is an action on the case for disturbance: seeing that he has in general no right to the exclusive possession, trespass will not lie. But if the right of common be exclusive, it has been said an action of trespass will lie. Where the right has been created by deed in favour of two or more persons, the right of apportionment will be competent as between those parties.

1 *Holford V. Bailey*, 13 Q. B. 431.

2 Holt, C. J. said, "That free fishery was where the right of fishing is granted to the grantee; and such grantee hath a property in the fish, and may bring a possessory action for them without making any title." *â* Smith v. Kemp, 2 Salk. 637. He seems to have thought it was analogous to free warren, but this doctrine is inconsistent with the other leading authorities.

3 Wilsoy. Mackreth, 3 Burr. 1824.

Harfjavcw. Conrjuton, 12 Ir. C. I.; E. 3G8, an analogous case, viz. a common of turbary.

In setting up a prescriptive right, this must be shown to be not too general and uncertain, for if it merely amounts to a general right on the part of all the Queen's subjects, it is bad. A prescription must be for some definite right claimed as appurtenant to certain tenements, describing them particularly.

Moreover, in setting up a plea of a common of fishery, care must be taken to describe it not as a common fishery, which is a different thing.

Remedy in Court of Chancery. *â* If the owner of a several fishery in a stream not navigable finds his fishery invaded by an individual, as, for example, a neighbouring owner, the remedy of an action of trespass, *quare claviSum fregit*, is generally sufficient for the purpose, and will dispose of questions of title, and disputes as to boundary. If a number of individuals, such as the inhabitants of a vill, claim a common of fishery there by custom, such a custom is bad, and cannot be sustained, and this has been the undoubted law for two centuries.³ And in the latter case an action of trespass in the first instance against an individual, followed, in case of a verdict for the plaintiff, by a bill of peace in the Court of Chancery, will completely vindicate the right.

So where the party claiming a several fishery in the sea or a navigable river finds his right invaded, he may bring an action of trespass against the individual trespasser. *Ward v. Crosswell*, Willes, 2C5.

2 Bennett v. Costar, 8 Taunt. 183.

3 Gateward's case, (SEep. 60. *Lloyd v. Jones*, 6 C. B. 89; *Bland v. Lipscomb*, 4 E. B. 713 n.

passer, for this action is competent, though the owner of the several fishery has no right to the soil in the locus in quo And the plaintiff is entitled to maintain such action, though no fish were actually taken by the trespasser," and the declaration need not allege such taking, or any specific injury. The reason of this is, that wherever any act injures another's right, and would be evidence in future in favour of a wrong-doer, an action may be maintained for an invasion of the right without proof of any specific injury.

If the several fishery is invaded by the public generally, or at least by numerous trespassers, the proper course is for the owner to bring an action of trespass against some individual, and after having established his right at law, he will then be entitled to file a bill of peace in a Court of Chancery, and thus obtain a decree which affects the public generally. A man cannot contend against all the Queen's subjects, and be expected to fight them in detail, for this litigation would be endless, and therefore a Court of Equity will grant a decree in a suit of a comprehensive kind, which will bind the public, even though the right claimed is in derogation of the public right, such as

a several fishery in the sea or a navigable river. But, as already stated, the Court will only do so after the exact point in dispute has been first settled by an action at law.

1 Ilford V. Bailey, 13 Q. B. 426. Â Ibid.

Patrick v. Greenway, 1 Wms. Saund. 346 b.

4 Allen V. Donnelly, 5 Ir. Ch. R. 229; Mayor of York v. Pilkington, 1 Atk. 282; City of London v. Perkins, 3 Bro. P. C. 602.

Thus the Irish Society having filed a bill of peace praying to be quieted in the possession of their several fishery in Lough Foyle, an issue was first directed to try whether they had an exclusive right of fishing there. At the trial evidence was given of ancient leases from the Irish Society to tenants, and payment of rent. The judgments in two previous actions brought by their lessees for disturbance of the fishery were also given in evidence as reputation of their title. Brady, L. C. said, the case was within the class of cases where evidence of general reputation is admissible. The action by the plaintiffs' lessees had raised the very point in dispute, and was substantially their own action, and therefore the verdict and depositions were admissible evidence.

Another case illustrates the hardships encountered by the owners of fisheries by the pertinacious trespasses of the public." The purchasers of a fishery in the river Galway and Lough Corrib petitioned the Court of Chancery to be quieted in the possession and enjoyment of their several fishery. The defendants were represented by ten persons, who were paupers, who set up as a defence that the river was, except in a certain specified portion, open to the public, and had been so from time immemorial. Evidence was given on both sides, and the plaintiffs, who produced grants from the Crown, and evidence of user, contended that the evidence of user on the part of the defendants was evidence

Allen V. Donnelly, 5 Ir. Ch. R. 229. Ashicorth v. Brown, 10 Ir. Ch. W. 421.

merely of a succession of trespasses. There had been a trial of an issue some years previously, which settled the right to the fishery in the plaintiffs. The M. E. accordingly, without putting the plaintiffs to any further trial, granted the decree declaring the petitioners' rights and continuing the injunction.

No Right at Common Law to Angling in another's Waters. â It is sometimes said to be a popular impression that angling is a privileged pursuit in this respect, that if the angler follow up the banks of a stream or river and confine himself to fishing without any unnecessary trespass he cannot be prevented doing so; and that if the leave of the owner of the lands is occasionally asked by him this is only a gratuitous courtesy which he is not bound to render. If, however, this is a general impression, it is founded entirely on a mistake. In the first place, the common law, apart from statute, knows no distinction between rod fishing and any other kind of fishing. All kinds of fishing are merely modes of catching fish, and the right of catching fish in a water is a right of fishery, which from its nature is an exclusive thing, being one of the incidents of property. Whoever is the owner of the land beneath the water, which generally means the same thing as the owner of the soil abutting on the water, or the riparian owner, has, as one of the incidents of ownership, the exclusive right of catching all the fish he finds in the superincumbent water. Property is essentially an exclusive thing, and the incident of fishing is also so. All other persons, therefore, except the owner of the soil beneath, or the riparian owner, have no more right to fish in his water than they

have a right to seize any other perquisite of the soil. Whether a stranger fishes with a net or a rod can make no difference in point of law: it is the taking of the fish, not the manner of taking it, that is important. It follows, therefore, that no stranger whatever has a right to enter upon land without the owner's permission (and land must always have an owner), and walk either along the banks or wade in the bed of the stream to fish there. If he do so without the permission of the owner of the land, he commits a trespass in the eye of the law, for which the owner can bring an action against him and recover damages.

It may be taken, therefore, as a general rule, that all anglers who go and fish in a stream without the permission of the owner of the land are trespassers or poachers. If permission is given by such owner, the case is altered. Sometimes an owner is careless of his rights, and tolerates strangers, who, knowing this lenience, invade his fields to angle or fish with nets, especially to angle. This, however, is a gratuitous concession on his part, and he, can at any moment, without notice, resume his rights, and treat all such intruders as trespassers. Whether the land on which the trespasser goes is waste or cultivated, fenced or unfenced, it is equally a trespass for him to go there without the owner's permission. This has always been the law, and is still the law, as regards all rivers and streams whatever; and the same is true also of the shore. In all cases the land of the sea-banks belongs to some individual owner unless there is a highway at some point of access. If a stranger goes along the highway (and the shore between high and low water mark is on the footing of a highway, being open to the public use), and so gets into a boat, he may then exercise the right he has as one of the public to fish in the sea and in navigable rivers, unless some individual has a several fishery there, as may well be. In other cases, he has no right whatever to go near a stream or water to fish, for he can only do so by committing a trespass; but, as is well known, owners of waste and unprofitable land near the sea or a navigable river seldom actively interfere to prevent strangers walking along the banks or shore, though in strictness they can always do so at will, unless there is a public highway at the place in question.

Such is the doctrine of the common law as regards angling and fishing generally, and the law is still unchanged by statute, for the statutes merely give a shorter and more summary remedy for the grosser cases of trespassing, and in doing so the legislature has in some cases either awarded a milder punishment to mere anglers as 1 See ante, p. 15.

compared with net fishers, or exempted anglers from any criminal punishment whatever. Nevertheless, it is not to be supposed in the latter case that anglers are not liable to any punishment, for they are always liable to an action at law, though that it is a remedy in most cases so costly and tedious as to be practically no remedy at all.

Anglers, as Poachers, are Punished. — Angling, therefore, being in point of law on the same footing as net and other kinds of fishing, the primary rule is, that all anglers, unless they have the permission, express or implied, of the owners of the water, are poachers, and are punishable as such, except they are exempted by some statute. In stating in detail, therefore, the laws affecting angling, it is merely necessary to recapitulate shortly what has been already stated as to other kinds of illegal fishing. Since angling differs in no respect in point of law from any other mode of fishing, it follows that if the public generally have a right to fish in a particular water, that is, if

there is a common fishery there, then any person may angle as well as use nets or other apparatus, and may catch whatever fish he can. If, however, the public are excluded, as they sometimes may be, from the sea or a navigable river by a grant of the Crown or by prescriptive user in favour of some individual, or if they are excluded, as they must be in point of law, from private waters or streams, then an individual stranger has no more right to angle in such water than he has to use a net or other apparatus. All strangers who fish in waters where there is a several fishery, or a free fishery, or a common of fishery belonging to some other person or number of persons, are equally poachers, whether they catch or seek to catch the fish with a rod or a net or any other engine. Hence, if an angler, without leave of the owner of the fishery, unlawfully and wilfully take or destroy fish by angling in a pond or stream running through land adjacent to the dwelling-house of the owner of the fishery (except in the daytime), he is guilty of a misdemeanour in the same way as those who fish with nets. The same offence committed in a water not adjoining a dwelling-house of the owner, is treated with more leniency. For if a stranger, without leave, angle, i. e. attempt to catch fish (whether successfully or not is immaterial) in any water not adjacent to a dwelling-house, but in which there is a private right of fishery (and this enactment is nearly universal in its application to fisheries which are not common or public), he incurs, besides the value of the fish, a penalty of bl

Angling in the Daytime. â If, however, this illegal angling take place between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the first hour after sunset, the first of the above two offences, i. e. poaching in a water near a dwelling-house, is not a misdemeanour, but is only punishable by a fine of 10s.; and the second offence above described, i. e. poaching in a water not near a dwelling-house, is punishable by a fine of 20s. If the penalty awarded by the Justice shall not be paid either immediately after conviction or at the time appointed by the convicting Justice, the offender 1 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 24, ante, pp. 73, 74, 7(3.- Ibid. 3 Ibid.

may be committed to the House of Correction with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding two months, if the aggregate penalty and sum forfeited do not exceed 100s. If it is a first offence, the Justice may discharge the offender altogether on the latter making satisfaction to the party aggrieved for damages and costs as ascertained by the Justice; and a conviction is a bar to any other proceeding for the same offence. The convicted party may either appeal against his conviction to the next quarter Sessions, on giving notice to the other party within three days after the decision, or he may appeal to one of the superior courts of law directly.

When Anglers may be Apprehended. â Though an angler were found poaching, the common law gave no summary remedy against this offence. He could not be seized and given into custody by the owner of the land or of the fishery, nor could a Justice of the Peace fine him for the trespass. All that could be done was, for the owner to order the angler to quit the land, and if he refused, to push him off with, as little violence as possible; and the owner could then soothe his feelings by bringing an action against the angler, but this was a tedious and costly remedy, which often ended unsatisfactorily, if not disastrously, to the plaintiff." The Larceny Act has not amended the law in this respect, and has given a power 1 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 107, ante, p. 82.

2 Ibid. Â 108, ante., p. 82.

3 Ibid. Â 109, ante, p. 82. â â Ibid. Â 110, ante, p. 82. 5 See ante, p. 83.

8 See Paterson's Game Laws, p. 45; Introd. 34, 36.

to apprehend the angler only in rare cases. If the angler is found on the spot, committing either of the offences already mentioned, he may be apprehended by any person without a warrant and taken before a neighbouring Justice. But if the angling takes place, as will probably be generally the case, in the daytime, he cannot be so apprehended by any person whatever, whether the owner of the fishery or not, for the statute excepts him in express words. Daytime is defined by the Act to mean the "time between the beginning of the last hour before sunrise and the expiration of the last hour after sunset." 2 So that the angler, though wilfully poaching, provided he do so in the daytime, is saved the indignity of being seized and dragged before a neighbouring Justice and committed to prison. He does not, however, escape the punishment, for he can be served with a summons to attend before the Justices on a future day, and if he refuse to attend, he may then be apprehended and brought by force.

Awjlcrd Rod and Tackle, lolien Scizauc. â But though an angler in the da i; ime cannot be apprehended by any person whatever, his fishing-rod and tackle may be seized by the owner of the ground or of the fishery in certain circumstances. The persons who can so seize the tackle are "stated by the statute to be "the owner of the ground or of the fishery." These words must, according to the general rule of construing penal enactments, be strictly construed. Therefore, if the ground or fishery is let, 1 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 103, ante, p. 77.- Ibid. Â 24, ante, p. 73.

2 Ibid. Â 25, ante, p. 79.

the occupier would not be entitled to seize, for no power is given to the occupier. Moreover, the angler's tackle can only be seized if he is at the time offending, and on the spot where he has been fishing. Hence, if he has gone away, or escaped into another person's ground or into the highway, before the owner has overtaken liim (which will probably be frequently the case), the power to seize is gone. In that case he can only be served with a summons, and made to answer before a Justice of the Peace for the offence. Moreover, it is only the tackle or implements used for fishing that can be seized, which would include rod, line, and hooks, and a gaff, if used as an auxiliary to angling, but not the basket or bag. Moreover, if the owner of the fishery seize any of the angler's implements he is precluded from taking any other remedy, whether ci dl or criminal." So that while the angler is exempt from arrest in person, yet his tackle and rod may be seized in certain cases, but if this latter remedy is resorted to, it operates as entire satisfaction, and no other proceeding is competent. The person who legally seizes the rod and tackle acqui'es the property in them, and can sell or burn them.

Remedies against Angler Poaching. â AVhen an angler trespasses on the banks of a private stream, or in a several fishery, he may, as already stated, in some, though in rare cases, be apprehended, and taken before a Justice of the Peace and convicted. If, however, in the circumstances he cannot be apprehended, he is 1 See; o5, p. 130.

2 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25, ante, p. 79.

3 See ante, p. 125, nevertheless a trespasser on the Land adjacent, and the owner or occnpier of the land may, as already mentioned, push him off, nsing no more force

than is necessary for that purpose. The angler may also be served with a summons, charging him with the offence of illegally fishing in the private fishery, and may be fined to the extent previously mentioned. If the angler is convicted, he cannot be punished in any way by another proceeding; but if this criminal remedy is not resorted to, the angler may be sued in an action at law for the trespass on the lands, or water if it is a several fishery, or an action on the case for disturbing the fishery, if it is a free fishery or a common of fishery.

Claim of Rigid to Angle. It will no doubt sometimes happen that the angler will set up a legal right to angle in a particular place, and in such a case he will of course make that his defence if summoned before Justices or sued at law. When before Justices, if he set up a legal right in his own person to angle, he must be prepared to give some colour to his assertion by showing some reasonable ground for his claim. It is for the Justices to decide whether there is such reasonable ground, and whether the defendant stands on it in which case the Justices will stay their hands, and remit the parties to settle the point by means of an action at law. If, however, the claim of right is mere empty assertion, without colour of foundation in point of law, the Justices will disregard it, and convict the party, if there is evidence of the offence.

See cases, ante, p. 82; *R. v. Stimjison*, 32 L. J. M. C. 208.

It may also be observed, that if a party claim the legal right to angle, and in exercise of his right trample on corn, break overhanging branches, leap fences, and do other acts which would otherwise be injurious to the land or crops of the owner or tenant of the lands, he cannot be punished under the Malicious Injuries Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 97; for such acts done in exercise of a right are expressly exempted.

Claims of Inhabitants of Towns to Angle. Sometimes the inhabitants of a village or town set up a claim to angle in a part of a river or water on the ground of ancient custom. If, however, the fishery is a several fishery, whether in the sea or river, which means that the exclusive right of fishing there belongs to some individual, such a claim on the part of the public is difficult to be established. In many cases the owner of a several fishery may consider the rod fishing of little or no consequence, and may expressly grant permission, or impliedly tolerate anglers without caring to disturb them, so long as they do not interfere with the more valuable part of the fishery, viz. the fishing with nets. In such cases the acts of such anglers are more likely to be referable to the licence of the owner, who, if he pleases, may allow all the public or a portion of the public to angle there. But no length of time during which such acts are capable of being explained on the ground of licence can prevent the owner putting an end to such licence. He may resume his original rights at any moment, and withdraw the licence, for no man is obliged to have his rights abridged by acting liberally towards the public or his neighbours.

On the other hand, as it is quite competent for the owner of a fishery to split up his rights of fishery into rod fishing and net fishing, it might be said that there is nothing in point of law to prevent him dedicating the rod fishing to the public and retaining the net fishing. If for many years he has allowed the public to angle without ever interrupting them, there is no reason why a presumption of law will not arise that he has dedicated the angling to the public; and, as in the analogous case of highway, there is no definite number of years required in order to give rise to such presumption

being raised against him. Hence it may happen that after a number of years user by the public promiscuously of the angling in a particular water or river, the public may begin to claim as a right what at first was merely a licence, and litigation may arise as to whether the public have acquired the right or not. There seems, however, no trace of any such right being established in this way. *Prima facie*, if there is a several fishery there, the right of angling also, being a part of the several fishery, will belong to the owner of the several fishery; and if all the acts of the public can be readily explained by the theory of express licence on the part of the owner, the public will have acquired no right as against him. But if no case of interruption on his part can be proved for a series of years, then dedication may be presumed against him; and the claim, if made at all, must be set up on the ground of dedication to the public at large, for a mere custom of the inhabitants of a vill to angle cannot be sustained. In these cases of disputed right, the only course of the owner of the several fishery is to sue one of the public for trespass, and thus raise the question; and if he succeed at law, he may then resort to a Court of Equity for a decree in a bill of peace to quiet his possession by an injunction.

It is of little use in such cases of disputed right for the owner of the fishery to proceed against persons before Justices of the Peace in order to convict them summarily; for as soon as a claim of right is set up by the defendant, the Justices have no jurisdiction to decide the matter in dispute.

Right to the Fish Angled. â Though the angler who angles without the leave of the owner of the fishery is a trespasser and a poacher, and incurs the penalties before mentioned, yet he is entitled to keep the fish he has illegally caught. The reason of this is, that the fish were wild animals, and belonged, to nobody before they were caught; they only became articles of property when they were caught, and according to the general rule applicable to all wild animals, he who first catches them is entitled to the property in them. They become absolutely his, and the owner of the fishery, as it seems, cannot even sue him in a civil action for their value,

Bland v. Lipscombe, 4 E. B. 713 n; *Lloyd v. Jones*, 6 C. B. 89; *Gateward's case*, 6 Rep. 60.

2 *Ashworth v. Broion*, 10 Ir. Ck R. 421; *Allen v. Donelhy*, 5 Ir. Ch. R. 229; *Major of York v. Pilkington*, 1 Atk. 282; *City of London v. Perkins*, 3 Bro. P. C. 602.

3 See ante, p. 127. See ante, p. 86.

though, as has been seen, he may bring an action on the case, or an action of trespass, according to the nature of his own right of fishery, in which action he will recover the value of the fish as part of the damages.

Purchase or Lease of Rod Fishing. â It has already been stated that he who has the several fishery in a particular stream or water, i. e. who is entitled exclusively to catch every kind of fish which frequent such water, can separate or subdivide the entire right into parts, and let each kind of fishing separately. Thus he may let the oyster fishery to one person; he may let the salmon and trout fishing by nets to another; and he may let the rod and line fishing to a third. The only effectual way of assigning the rod and line fishing to a third party, or, in popular phrase, of selling it, and parting with it for ever, is to execute a deed under seal, for a fishery is an incorporeal hereditament, and can only pass by deed. Any gratuitous leave not by way of deed confers only a licence to

fish, which is revocable at any moment. If, however, a contract of letting, or a lease for the consideration of a certain rent, has been entered into without a deed, the landlord or lessor can recover his rent under an indebitatus count for use and occupation.

1 Seymour v. L. Courtcnay, 5 Burr. 2814; Rogers y. Allen, 1 Camp. 309.

2 Holford X. Prichard, 3 Excli. 793.

3 Duke of Somerset v. Fogivell, 5 B. C. 875; Bird v. Higgcnson, 2 A. E. 696.

Per Parke, B. Holford v. Baihy, 13 Q. B. 426; Hopkins v. Robinson, 2 Lev. 2.

5 Holford V. Prichard, 3 Exeh. 793; Bird v. Higgcnson, 2 A. E. 696.

When the rod and line fishery is let by the owner of the fishery, the limited use of the banks goes with the fishery, for otherwise the exercise of the right of fishery would be unavailable; but this right is limited to the purposes of the fishery only, and extends to no other use. i

It may be observed that, as between the landlord and the tenant of lands in which a stream or water exists, if the fishery is not reserved by the landlord, it will belong to the tenant, in the same way as the right to game belongs to the tenant at common law." A fishery is, in effect, merely one of the uses of water; and as a lease is a contract for the exclusive use and possession of the surface of the land, it follows that the fishery will be the tenant's if not expressly excepted by the landlord.

Angling Salmon. â The rules already mentioned apply to angling salmon as well as other fish, for at common law no distinction exists between the two, nor does the Larceny Act draw any distinction. But the Salmon Fisheries Act, though not altering the general rules of law as regards the right of fishing for salmon as well as other fish, introduces some peculiarities in regard to that fish which form the subject of the next chapter, and, among others, qualifies the rights of anglers of salmon. In all other respects, therefore, the law of angling salmon is the same as that of angling other fish, except as regards the following points, which only affect other fish to a limited extent.

By the Salmon Fisheries Act, any person who uses 1 1 Wms. Saund. 323 n (6); see ante, p. 30 n (2).

2 Patersou's Game Laws, â 12.

salmon-roe for purposes of fishing any fisli whatever, incurs a penalty of 21. for each offence. Though it is illegal for other persons to use a gaff for catching salmon, yet it may be lawfully used as auxihary to angling with a rod and line.- An angler is not liable to a penalty like other fishermen, if he angle for salmon in the head race or tail race of any mill, or within fifty yards below any dam where such mill or dam has no legal fish-pass attached. An angler is not, however, exempt for taking imclean or unseasonable salmon and the young of salmon, and he forfeits his rod and line also, when committing these offences. He is also prohibited from angling for salmon during close time, except that he is privileged to fish tw o months longer than those who fish with other means. The angler's close season for salmon extends from 1st November to 1st Feljruary following, whereas for other fishermen the close season is from 1st September to 1st February, unless the local season has been altered: " but, strange to say, he cannot sell the' fish so caught by angling in the montlis of September and October, though he may make presents of them." Tlie angler is also privileged as regards the weekly close time, viz. from twelve o'clock noon on Saturday till six

A. M. on Monday morning, all the year round, for if otherwise entitled he incurs no penalty for angling during that interval.

1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 9. See Appendix, amx post, p. 144.

2 Ibid. Â 8. 3 n, ia. Â 12. 4 ILid. Â Â 14, 15. 5 Ibid.

6 Ibid. Â 17, post, p. 151. ' Ibid. Â 19.

8 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 21. It is thus no offence to angle salmon on Sundaj'. Nor is it an offence in Ireland; but it is so in Scotland.

It is scarcely necessary to observe that the close season applies only to salmon, for as to all other freshwater fish there is no close season, and therefore they may be fished all the year round.

It is also important to observe that no power is given by the Salmon Fisheries Act to apprehend persons committing the above offences. The ordinary procedure is to issue a sunmions to the party, convening him before Justices of the Peace where the offence was committed.

1 The procedure is under Jervis's Act, 11 12 Vict, c, 43; 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35. As to penalties, c. see next chapter.

Salmon Lairs Gciurauij. â The statute laws relating to salmon have recently been revised and consolidated by the Salmon Fisheries Act, 2-i 25 Vict. c. loO. i At common law there is no difference between salmon and other fish, but owing to the supposed importance of this fish as an article of food, it has been singled out for protection by the legislature. Nevertheless, the statute contains only a part of the entire laws governing the subject, and does not deal with the ordinary offence of

I The statute is priiited in the Aj pemlix.

poaching salmon. It either supplies deficiencies in the common law, or varies the common law, and as a general rule, the statute introduces peculiarities in the law as to salmon which are not applicable to other fish. The chief object of the statute is to prevent owners of fisheries from doing what they like with their own, that is, it prevents them from killing salmon at certain times, and by certain kinds of means, in order to secure fair play to the fish and to the adjoining owners, and with a view to the public interest. It may be safely assumed that the law, as previously stated, applies equally to salmon as to other fish, except so far as varied by what follows in this statute. The statute repeals nearly all local Acts, all the previous Acts as to salmon, and others also. The Tweed and Solway are governed by separate statutes.

Poisoning Salmon Rivers. â The statute (section 5) imposes fines on persons poisoning salmon rivers, but exempts those who claim a legal right so to do, in which case all they require to show is, that they have used the best reasonable means to neutralize the poison they send into the river. Tlie section jprimd facie subjects to a penalty all who knowingly put poisonous matter into waters " containing salmon, or any tributaries thereof." Therefore the waters include the sea, mouths of rivers, and even tributaries where no salmon may be usually found. The test of poisoning is one of quantity, and of course the quantity of matter must be greater to poison fish in a large river than in a small stream. But it is not necessary that the fish be actually

See ante, p. 26.

See other enactments as to fouling rivers, ante, p. 89.

killed, if the quantity was reasonably calculated to kill fish which at the time might be there."

If any fish whatever are killed, whether salmon or not, this is conclusive evidence of the killing power of the quantity put in the stream. The word "tributary," however, must be reasonably construed, so as to mean merely that part of the tributary stream which immediately adjoins the salmon water, otherwise it would include all streams whatever, for all streams are tributaries, in one sense, of a salmon water. The tributary need not contain salmon in order to be protected. In order to constitute the offence, it is not necessary to prove any malice in the defendant, or intent to kill or poison the fish, malicious offences being provided for by another enactment of the Malicious Injuries Act, 24 25 Yict. c. 97, Â 32;- but it must be proved that the defendant either personally put in, or ordered the matter to be put into the water, whatever may have been his motive, provided he had otherwise no legal right so to do. If, for example, a servant did the act without the master's knowledge or interference, the servant and not the master is liable to the penalty. It is not necessary that there should be a several fishery in the water poisoned; it is enough that salmon frequent the water which is poisoned.

The words "permit to flow," are extensive in their meaning, and in effect make the person an insurer that 1 See R. V. Bradford, 24 J. P. 374; Bell's C. C. 26S, where analogous words were so construed.- Ante, J). 87. ' Hari'son v. Leapcr, 26 J. P. 373.

the poisonous matter shall not flow into the water. This was at least the case where a manufacture was permitted, under a similar enactment to the above, and hence it is no defence that the party used great care, and was not actually aware of the specific cause of the matter flowing.- But Cockburn, C. J. doubted whether an individual can be said to suffer or permit a thing to be done, when he has taken every care to prevent it, or until an opportunity has been afforded him to repair the injury.

Legalized Nuisances which Poison Rivers. â The fifth section expressly saves the rights of persons who act bona fide in putting offensive matter into rivers and streams in the exercise of a legal right to do so. Hence it is necessary to consider in what circumstances, and to what extent, this prima facie nuisance may become legalized.

The common law gives no right to any person to pour offensive matter into streams so as to prejudice the rights of those living nearer the sea. The mere fact of a person having land adjacent to a stream gives only the right to that person to use the water for ordinary purposes; for example, for household use, or for cattle, or irrigation: but a riparian proprietor has no right to diminish the volume of water to an injurious extent, or to alter its plight or volume. The lower proprietor is entitled to have the use of the same volume and plight of water, as near as may be, as the

Ilipkins V. Birmingham Gas Co. 6 H. N. 250.

2 Il, id. 255.

3 *Miner V. Gilnumr*, 12 Moore, P. C. 131.

upper proprietor had, and if this right of the lower proprietor is injuriously affected by what the upper proprietor has done, the latter is liable to an action on the case; a familiar illustration of this right being that of a mill owner suing an upper proprietor for diverting or abstracting the water to a sensible and injurious extent. This right of the lower proprietor to have the stream sent down to him in a pure state is, however,

obviously one of degree, for it cannot be said that a riparian proprietor who merely drains into a large river is liable to an action at the suit of a lower proprietor. The degree and extent of the pollution must be considered relatively to the size of the river, and no doubt draining into a stream is not an unreasonable use of a stream at common law, being, indeed, a natural operation, which would be less of a nuisance than allowing the matter to dispose of itself by exposure to the air. If, however, an upper proprietor has been allowed without disturbance or objection to drain offensive liquid, or put matter into a stream for a period of twenty or forty years, he is said to have acquired a prescriptive right to do so for ever thereafter. This fifth section, therefore, does not interfere with or annihilate such a right; all it does is to require him to prove that he has used the best practicable means within a reasonable cost to render harmless the liquid or solid matter so permitted to flow or to be put into the water. In order to show that the unusual and unlawful use made by one riparian owner

1 Embreij v. Oiccn, 6 Exch. 372.

Â Bealcy v. SJuic, C East, 214; *Wright v. Williams*, 1 M. W. 77; *Carhjon v. Lovcring*, 1 H. N. 789.

"has not been acquiesced in, proof may be given that an action had been brought and a verdict obtained against the party fonling the water, or that he was convicted.

When a riparian owner has long used without interruption the stream in a way which is not justified by his natural right, a presumption arises that he has obtained a grant from the riparian owners beneath him. This grant is seldom capable of direct proof, but uninterrupted user for forty years is conclusive proof of it, or at least gives the party enjoying it after that time an absolute and indefeasible right so to use the water in the same way for ever after, unless it shall appear the same was enjoyed by some consent or agreement, by deed or writing. And even after twenty years' uninterrupted user, the claim to continue so to use it is not defeated by merely proving that it was first so used at some time prior to such twenty years." The twenty years begin to count only from the time when sensible injury accrued to the one party from the excessive user of the other party. The enjoyment of the right of polluting a stream thus amounts to an inchoate title, and must continue uninterrupted up to the commencement of the suit."

If the party polluting a river has no legal title as above explained, then he is liable to an action at law by ' *Eaton V. Swansea Water Co.* 17 Q. B. 267.

Samj)son v. Hoddinot, 1 C. B. N. S. 612; *Murgatroyd v. Robinson*, 7 E. B. 391.

Ibid.

â ' M unjatroyd v. Robinson, 7 E. B. 391.

6 Ward V. Robins, 15 M. W. 242; *Battisliill v. Read*, 18 C. B. 7; *Parker v. Mitcml*, 11 A. E. 788.

the parties injured, and in the action an injunction may also be chiimed. But the most effectual remedy in the first instance will be a proceeding before Justices under this statute, when, if necessaiy, an action may be brought.

If the fishery is injured by matter being poured into the water, and the injury is not accidental, but Kkely to continue, the owner of the fishery may also apply to the Court of Chancery for an injunction to restrain the proceeding. Thus, where the plaintiff was owner of a trout fishery in the river "VVandle, and the Local Board of Health carried

on extensive operations in deodorising the sewage of Croydon, but did it so unskilfully as to permit poisonous matter to flow into the river, and so to kill the fish, the Court granted an injunction." A Court of Common Law may also grant an injunction, as subsidiary to an action of damages, in all cases where a Court of Equity would grant an absolute injunction.

Stoppin(Illegal Rights. â Though if the owners of the fisheries object and interrupt any riparian owner in the attempt to acquire a legal right to poison the stream they "v 'ill thus prevent him from ever acquiring it, yet if they remain quiescent for twenty years, and submit to the nuisance, they will be barred in future in like manner from afterwards disputing the right. The Act (section 5, last clause) makes no difference in this respect, so that it will always rest on the owners of fisheries themselves to prevent such a prejudicial right 1 Stockport Water Co. v. Potter, 7 H N. 1(50. P'oke says au action lies for any spcciil damage to a several fishery, as by erecting a dye-house, or other nuisance, 9 Rep. 59.

Bidder v. Local Board of Health of Croydon, 6 L. T. N. S. 778.

being acquired and rendered indefeasible at their expense.

WJio may Prosecute. â Any person whatever, whether interested or not, may institute proceedings for recovery of the penalties for poisoning rivers, as well as for other offences in the Salmon Fisheries Act. The prosecutor is entitled to a portion of the penalty, not exceeding half, if the Justices think fit.

Claim of Right to Poison a River. â Wlien a person is summoned before Justices for the offence of poisoning a salmon water, it is not enough to oust the jurisdiction of Justices that the defendant asserts that he has a legal right to poison the stream. He must give some prima facie evidence to the Justices, so as to satisfy them that there is some foundation for the claim, such, for example, as his having done so for twenty years openly. If the Justices erroneously conclude that he has no legal right, and convict him, they are nevertheless not liable to an action, unless malice is alleged, and unless it is proved that there was no evidence before the Justices which could have led them so to find that the claim was unfounded.

In order to entitle the defendant to have the matter determined by a Court of Law, instead of by Justices, he must comply with the requisites stated in section 6, viz. prove that he had done his best, and tliat it would cost above 100. to remedy the matter. The Justices must be satisfied that the costs of preventing the nuisance will exceed 1001 and slight evidence of this 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35.

"Pease v. Chaytor, 27 J. P. 309; 32 L. J. M. C. 12L should be accepted, for the fidl proof must be resented for the jury afterwards. If the defendant comply with what is required in the beginning of section 6, the Justices have no option as to staying the proceedings. A stay of proceedings then occurs as a matter of course. And they have no power to deal with costs, as these form part of the costs of the action. It is not, however, compulsory on the complainant to proceed by action. If he does, he can choose his own superior court. He merely issues a summons. The question to be tried will be settled by consent, or by a Judge at chambers, according to the practice under the Common Law Procedure Act, 1852, Â 42, d seq. It is obviously intended that the jury should dispose conclusively of all questions of damages. The Justices will settle what security should be given by the defendant, which ought to be sufficient to

cover the penalty and costs in the event of his losing the verdict (section 7). If the defendant do not defend, judgment will be entered up by default. If nothing is agreed as to costs, the costs shall follow the event. The decision of the jury is conclusive as to the question involved in the continued existence of the nuisance.

Fishing Salmon vnth Lights, Spears, c. â No person, whether the owner of a salmon fishery or a trespasser, is permitted to fish with lights, spears, gaffs, stroke-halls, snatches, or the like instruments, or even to have such things in his possession, with intent to catch salmon.- The offence, therefore, is not merely actually using lights or spears for catching salmon, but having 1 C. L. P. Act, 1852, Â 48. Â 24 25 Yiot. c. 109, Â 8.

in one's possession these articles with intention to use them. This latter offence is one which gives a wide discretion to Justices, but they must be governed by-reasonable considerations. The mere possession of the articles of themselves is not illegal; the intent makes all the difference. The question, therefore, will be one of circumstantial evidence as to the character of the party possessing them, the account he gives, the time and place when he is found in such possession, c. The Justices must have circumstances before them from which they can reasonably infer the intent to use them at the time, which means also not a future, but a present time. A person might even be found guilty who was found in his house with these implements, preparing to start, provided he intended forthwith to use them illegally. Possession of an illegal kind always implies that the party knew of the things, for an unconscious possession is not a guilty possession." These offences can only be committed with respect to salmon, and no other fish, for at common law one can catch fish by any means he thinks proper. The instruments are forfeited, i. e. the Court can destroy them or sell them, and apply the proceeds in the same way as the penalty.-

Using Fish-roe as Bait. â It is a criminal offence for any fisher, whether the owner of a fishery or a poacher, to use fish-roe for fishing, or to buy, or sell, or have salmon-roe in one's possession. The first offence applies to fish-roe used for fishing; the second offence to salmon- 1 Per Aldeison, B. in R v. Woodrow, 15 M. W. 404; B. v. Sleep, 1 L. C. 44.

2 Seei5os, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35. jb. Â 9, roe. Tlie word fish not being defined by the statute, the obvious meaning of the first clause is, that the roe of any fish wliatever is not to be used for the catching of any fish whatever, so that other fish than salmon are here protected. The only offence as to the roe of other than, salmon-fish, is the using it for fishing, and therefore it is no offence to buy or sell it, or to use it for other purposes than fishing. But as to salmon-roe the statute is more strict, and not only the buying, selling, or exposing to sale, but the possessing of it for any purpose whatever is an offence, the possession being a possession with knowledge. Scientific and other legitimate purposes are expressly excepted. The penalty being incurred for each offence, the rule is, that only one offence can be committed on one day, if there is merely a repetition of acts of the same kind; as for example, using fish-roe for fishing the whole day long would be only one offence. But buying salmon-roe, or selling it or exposing it for sale, or possessing it, is each a distinct offence, and may be separately punished, imless it is the same identical salmon-roe which is the subject-matter of each transaction. If a person were to buy some salmon-roe, offer to sell some to A,

then sell some to B, and keep the rest, it seems he may be guilty of four offences on one day,

Salmon Nets. â No person, whether the owner of a fishery, or a poacher, is entitled to fish salmon with a net less than two inches from knot to knot, otherwise he forfeits the nets and incurs a penalty of 10l.- The 1 R. V. Lovctf, 7 T. K. 152; R. v. Scott, 27 J. P. 420.- 24 25 Vict, c. 109, Â 10.

offence consists either in taking, or attempting to take salmon with illegal nets. The nets and tackle become forfeited provided a conviction takes place, and then may be disposed of as stated in sect. 35. No offence under this section is committed by a person who has in his possession a net of the illegal size, provided it is not used in taking or attempting to take the fish. But a search-warrant may be obtained to seize such nets under sect. 34, if there is reasonable evidence or probable cause to suspect they have been used illegally.

Fixed Engines. â It is an offence to use fixed engines of any description in any waters for the purpose of catching salmon." The engine is forfeited as well as the salmon caught, and a penalty of 10. a day is incurred besides. This section has nothing to do with fishing wears or fishing mill-dams, which are dealt with in the twelfth section.² All possible waters which salmon frequent are comprehended in the phrase, inland or tidal waters. Fixed engines, by the interpretation clause, sect. 4, include stake-nets, bag-nets, putts, putchers, and all fixed implements or engines for catching or for facilitating the catching of fish. Where there is no several fisheiy, but the public generally are entitled to fish, they are prohibited by this section from using fixed engines, whether they have been accustomed to do so from time immemorial or not. The section confers a power on any one of the public, whether interested or not, to destroy a fixed engine, and therefore he is not liable to 2425 Vict. c. 109, Â 11.

8 Mmlton V. Wilby, 8 L. T. N. S. 284; 32 L. J., 164 M. C.

an action of trespass for doing so. As to the forfeiture, seejiosf, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35.

As already explained, not only wears, but any fixed engine which sensibly prevents the passage of fish to the upper streams, is illegal at coniuon law; but on the construction of the statutes affecting wears, it is now settled that wherever the engine or fixed apparatus can be traced to the period of Magna Charta it is legal.-AU owners in this position are expressly exempted from this penalty.

Fishing Dams. â No lishiug mill-dam or fishing wear is legal except it be ancient, and even ancient fishing wears must have a free gap, and ancient fishing mill-dams must have a proper fish-pass; and no fishing is allowed in the head or tail race of a mil), or within fifty yards below a dam, unless these have a fish-pass.

As already stated, no wear or dam for fishing is legal unless its origin can be presumed to be older than Magna Charta." This section makes illegal all other wears, and rentiers it necessary to have fish-gaps and passes attached to those which are legal. Only one offence can be committed on one day, whether any salmon be caught or not; but the penalty of 11. per salmon actually caught is over and above the 5. incurred for the substantive offence. As to the disposal of the forfeited traps, nets, and salmon, see post, 24 25 Vict, c. 109, Â 35.

1 Williams v. Bl. ackwall, 8 L. T. KS. 252; 32 L. J., Hi Exlu.

See ante, p. 37.

3 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 12.

Sec ant", p. 37.

5 See R. V. Scott, 27 J. P. 420.

Dams, though not ancient, are not made illegal by this section merely because they have no fish-gap or pass, provided they are not used for catching salmon; and therefore they may also be legally used for catching other fish, provided they are not illegal at common law. They are illegal at common law if they sensibly impede the fish from passing up the stream to other proprietors. The fish-pass for an ancient fishing dam must not only be approved by the Home Office, but must have a flow of water constantly moving through it, so as to let the salmon pass up and down.

The second heading of this section applies to dams which are not fishing dams and to mill-races, and contains an absolute prohibition against catching salmon at the places mentioned in any manner, except by rod and line, unless there is a regular fish-pass attached; and even if the owner of the mill-dam refuse his consent to the attaching of a fish-pass, the owner of the fishery will nevertheless be prohibited from so fishing. Thus where the owner of a fishery had a salmon cage built upon a spur of masonry, beside a wear or a dam which had no fish-pass, but it belonged to another person, and he took salmon out of the cage with a hand net, he was held rightly convicted, though he could not compel the owner of the dam to attach a fish-pass; and it seems his proper course would be to apply to the Home Office to order a fish-pass to be attached to the dam.

A difficulty may arise, where the fishery belongs to one person and the wear to another, in saying that the 1 *Mouuon V. Wilhy*, 8 L. T. N. S. 284; 32 L. J., 164 M. C. Per Martin, B. *ibid*.

wear is used for catching fisli; Lut it seems to come within thnit description. The section has thus the effect of taking away from the owner of a fishery valuable property without compensation, for it prohibits liim from using his fishery in the same way that he may have used it from time immemorial."

Gratings in Artificial Streams. â Where a salmon stream communicates with a canal or artificial channel used to supply towns with water, a grating must be put across such channel to prevent the salmon or young salmon passing. If the grating has not been put up and maintained as required by this enactment, a civil remedy also exists against the company or persons, and the owner of an adjacent fishery who is injured by the neglect of duty may bring an action on the case. This enactment is obviously intended only to apply to channels where the water of the salmon river descends or runs out, and not to channels from which the water descends into the salmon river.

Talcinrj Unclean Fish. â Xo person, whether the owner of a fishery or not, is allowed to take, buy, or sell or possess unclean or unseasonable salmon, excepting accidents and scientific purposes." The offence of wilfully taking unclean salmon implies knowledge of the condition of the salmon. If accidentally taken, they should be returned to the water. " To take," does not

Per Bramwell, B. *Moulton v. Wilby*, 8 L. T. N. S. 285, *supra*.

"Per Bramwell, B. *ibid*.

3 2425 Vict. c. 109, Â 1-3.

Caledonian R. Co. v. Colt, 3 L. T. N. S. 252; 3 Macii. H. L. 833.

'dpost, Â 15.

Â 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 14.

imply manual possession of or dominion over the fish. The buying seems to be one offence, selling another, c. even though in reference to one and the same individual fish, and the penalty attaches upon each fish bought, c.; thus cumulative offences may attach to one fish. The expression " forfeit " is properly applicable only to fish in one's possession, and hence has no meaning in reference to fish already sold, and which have been delivered to the buyer; in short, one can only forfeit what he buys but not what he sells. Though, therefore, the possessing is subject to a penalty, the property of salmon bought is so far his that it would seem to be larceny in a third party to take it from him.

No penalty is put upon each fish bought, the word " bought " being probably by oversight omitted, and therefore he who buys such a salmon merely forfeits it, but incurs no penalty.

Taking Young of Salmon. â It is an offence to take, destroy, buy, sell, or possess, obstruct or injure the young of salmon, or disturb a spawning bed. There is no definite age implied in the expression " young of salmon," which is defined in sect. 4.- This is, however, now the only enactment protecting the young of fish, the older statutes being repealed by this Act, and therefore at common law any person may take the young of other fish without restriction. The third offence, " placing a device obstructing the passage," is difficult of interpretation. It must mean a substantial obstruction, but the device need not extend to 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 15. see Appendix.

3 Â 30, ante, p. 36, the whole width of the stream, nor is there any restriction as to where the device is to be put. The object in view was probably to render illegal any gratings put across the tributary streams of salmon rivers, which would have the effect of obstructing the young salmon from going upwards. In order to convict of the third offence, it is not necessary to prove the actual obstruction, if in the ordinary course of things the device is calculated so to obstruct young of salmon coming there. As to what is done with forfeited property, see post, sect. 35.

Disturbing Salmon Spawning. â The wilful disturbance or catching of salmon when spawning, or near their spawning beds, is punishable with a fine of ol.; but catching salmon for scientific purposes is excepted.

It might be a question how far persons legally entitled to fish trout, or any other freshwater fish, and doing so near spawning beds of salmon, would be within this penalty and other penalties of this Act; but it seems they would not. Trout fishing may be a much more valuable right than salmon fishing at the spot in question; and even if it were not, there is no trace in the law of England (as there is in the law of Scotland) of the doctrine that salmon fishing is a paramount right to which other freshwater fishing must yield. The word " wilfully " is the essence of the offence, and implies an absence of bona fides; but if the party were honestly exercising his right of trout fishing, he seems not to be within this section of the statute.

Close Times. â The close time for salmon fishing is fixed by the statute, and it is illegal to fish salmon 1 24 25 Vict c. 109, Â 16.

between the 1st day of September and the 1st of February following, inclusive, or for anglers to fish between 2d of November and the 1st of February following, both inclusive. The fish are forfeited, and the penalty increases with the number of fish caught. The offence consists in catching or killing during the close season, or attempting to do so; but it is no offence to keep, for purposes of food, the fish caught on the few last days of the fishing season for some days after the close season commences, and a margin of three days more is also given for buying or selling by sect. 19. As there is no close time as to trout and other fish than salmon, it is possible that salmon might be caught accidentally during close time by those who are legally exercising their right of fishing for other fish, and in such case no offence would be committed." But if the evidence shows that the fishermen were fishing merely colourably for trout, c., and were in reality in pursuit of salmon, this defence will naturally be viewed with suspicion, and will require clear evidence. There can only be one offence committed under this section on one day, but the penalty will be increased according to the number of salmon actually caught.

The anglers have an extension of the fishing season for two months, viz. September, October and 1st November.

Home Office varying Close Season. â Power is given to the Home Office to vary the close season for salmon 1 2425 Vict. c. 109, Â 17.

Simpson v. Umvin, 3 B. Ad. 134.

. See ante, p. 151.

â See R. V. Scott, 27 J. P. 420.

fishing. The Home Office cannot interfere unless on the application of the Justices in quarter sessions, after the preliminary notices mentioned, and the Home Office has a discretion to refuse to alter. The phrase " extend or vary " is an inartificial expression. The proper meaning would be " extend or contract " the close season, otherwise the word " ' vary " would be insensible. Nevertheless, taking the whole of the section together, the context is such that the introduction of the words " or vary " is clearly insensible; the rest of the clause uses the phrase, " the extension of such time, " " close time so extended, " showing that power was only given to the Home Office to extend and not to shorten the close season. The section is also badly drawn, inasmuch as it leaves it uncertain whether the Home Office, after once exercising the power to extend the close season, can only vary that extension on a like application of Justices; the section omits the words " on a like application of such Justices " in the last clause. Another defect in the section is, that no provision is made for suspending a copy of the Home Secretary's order in some public local situation, so as to be easily accessible to fishermen and anglers, as well as the local public, and thereby inform them of the change. But probably this power will seldom be exercised by the Home Office at all, as uniformity of the law is always desirable.

Selling Fish during Close Time. â It is illegal to buy, sell, expose for sale, or possess salmon between the 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 18.

â See i? e Newport Bridgc, 24 J. V. 133; 29 L. J., 32 Q. B.

3d September and 2d February following. As remarked, there is no offence committed in keeping fish after close time has commenced for purposes of food; but this section makes it an offence to sell, buy, or keep for purposes of sale between 3d

September and 2d February following. As regards the computation of time, seeing that the statute does not say that the 3d September and 2d February are to be calculated as inclusive, those days must be reckoned as exclusive. Such is the result of the only authorities on this mode of construing a statute, especially where it is penal. Hence it is legal to buy and sell salmon on the 3d September as well as on the 2d February.

It will be recollected that though it is legal for anglers to catch salmon in September and October, by sect. 17, yet it is by this clause illegal for the angler to sell or for the public to buy his fish. This may have been an oversight in the statute; but whether or not it was so, the angler will incur a penalty for making profit of his talents and skill during those two months. There is, however, nothing to prevent him making presents of angled salmon, or to prevent his friends thankfully receiving them, or even making gifts of other things in exchange.

The language is peculiar as to the imposition of the penalty, and differs from the other sections. Nevertheless the proper construction seems to be that a party 1 24 2.5 Vict. c. 109, Â 19.

2 Ante, p. 152.

3 *Ycncng v. HUjcjen*, 6 M. W. 49; *Rohinsnn v. Waddington*, 13 Q. B. 753. See analogous enactment, *Paterson's Game Laws*, 4.

can only coiiinit one offence of the same kind, as buying, selling, c. on one day, Imt tliat the penalty increases according to the number of salmon bought, sold, c. As to forfeiture, see post, sect. 35.

A person who sells or buys during close time salmon Avhich has been caught in foreign countries, or in Ireland or Scotland, commits no offence; but the onus is cast on him of proving that the salmon he sells, Â fec. was really caught out of England or Wales. For this purpose he must be prepared to produce the invoice, or other mercantile voucher, as part of the evidence that they were purchased or obtained from abroad, and from whom.

Exporting Salmon during Close Time. â The offence of exporting salmon during close time was not included in the Salmon Fisheries Act of 1861, but was dealt with by the Act 26 Vict. c. 10. The latter Act makes exportation illegal, provided the fish were caught during close time. The Act contemplates that English-caught salmon may always be legally entered for expoi-tation between 2d February and 3d September, inclusive; but exportation in England at other times is not illegal of salmon caught legally in Scotland or Ireland, for the Scotch and Irish close times do not coincide with the English close time.

Though anglers may, as already observed,- fish for salmon in England during September and October, they are liable to a penalty for selling them during those months; and as exportation is illegal where 'er selling is illegal, it follows that they cannot export the salmon ' See Appendix.- Ante, p. 154.

angled during those months. They are thus driven to consume them in person, or by the mouths of their friends and donees.

Fixed Engines in Close Time. â All proprietors of fixed engines must remove their apparatus of boxes, cribs, c. within thirty-six hours after the commencement of close season, i. e. of 1st September, so as to allow the fish free course, otherwise the engines are forfeited, and 10? per day is the penalty.

The word fishery is not defined in the Act, but it means such a right as can be used, with the aid of certain machinery, where machinery is legal. The section in effect renders illegal every kind of obstruction or temporary fixture of the nature indicated. Thus, where the owner of a mill-dam, and of a fishery had certain locks in the dam, which could be used for catching fish, and when down obstructed the fish, this was held an obstruction within this section.

Where the occupier is summoned, it is enough to prove that he acted *de facto* as the occupier. A fixed engine is defined by the Act, sect. 4, to include stake-nets, bag-nets, putts, putchers, and all fixed implements or engines for catching or for facilitating the catching of fish.

Weekly Close Time. â Not only is an annual close time of five months prescribed; but during the open or fishing season, a space of nearly two days is given, i. e. from 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 20. ' See *ante*, p. 37.

3 *Hodgson v. Uttle*, 8 L. T. N. S. 358; 32 L. J., 220 M. C. By sect. 34 the fixtures may be seized.

12 noon on Saturday to 6 a. m. on Monday, for the fish to have a free run. Hence no fishermen are allowed to fish for or catch fish during this weekly close time by any means whatever except by rod and line. The penalty is a forfeiture of the net or movable instrument used, and a penalty of 51, and 11 per fish taken. Anglers are thus the only persons privileged to fish between Saturday noon and Monday morning, 6 a. m. They may, if otherwise entitled, lawfully fish on Sundays; though it is an offence punishable by a fine of 51 to kill or pursue game on Sunday.-

The owners of putts or putchers are not obliged to draw them up during weekly close time, but they must let down a net or other device so as to put them out of gear during those hours.

And the owners of all fisheries where fixed engines are lawfully used, shall leave all their cribs, boxes, or cruives open during the weekly close time, under a penalty of ol, and 1. per fish caught, besides forfeiting such fish.

Regulations as to Fish-passes. â A dam is defined by the Act, sect. 4, to mean all wears and other fixed obstructions used for the purpose of damming up water. Wherever a dam legally existed at the time of the Salmon Fisheries Act, the proprietor of a fishery may serve notice on the owner of the dam, that he intends to apply for the consent of the Home Office to affix a 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 21,- ratcrson's Game Laws, pp. 3, 4. 3 24 25 Vict. e. 109, Â 21. *Ibid.* Â 22.

fish-pass to such dam, stating the plan and specifications; and the Home Office may hear both sides before deciding. It is absolutely requisite that the Home Office shall hear the objections of the owner of the dam before deciding, and the Court of Queen's Bench will grant a mandamus, if necessary, to the Secretary of State to hear such objections. The chief objection will be that the fish-pass will injure the milling power, but this will not be conclusive, for compensation may be recovered for such injury. The discretion of the Home Office in the matter of consenting to a fish-pass is absolute, and cannot be interfered with by a court of law, provided only the Home Secretary has fairly taken the objections into consideration. When a fish-pass is once authorized, penalties are imposed on all persons who interfere with the construction

or maintenance of it.² The expense of erecting the fish-pass falls on the owner of the fishery.

In all dams made in salmon waters after 1861, or raised or altered after that date, which obstruct salmon, a fish-pass, of a form approved of by the Home Office, must be made at the expense of the person making or altering the dam.

Whenever a legally constructed fish-pass is attached to a dam, the sluices must be kept shut (except when used for milling purposes, or in case of cleaning, or of a flood, or other necessary occasion), so as to allow the water to flow through the fish-pass, under a penalty of 5s. per hour."

1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, s. 23, 24. Thid. s. 23.

3 Ibid. s. 25. ' Ibid. s. 26.

Regulations as to Fishing Weirs. A fishing weir is defined by the Act (sect. 4) as a dam used for the exclusive purpose of catching, or facilitating the catching of fish. In all fishing weirs which are legal i. e. which have had a legal origin before Magna Charta,) and which at lowest water extend more than half-way across the stream, a free gap must be made of a size, and form, and situation prescribed by the statute, which can only be departed from by authority of the Home Office.-The owners of such a weir were bound within twelve months after 1st October, 1861, to make such a gap under a penalty of 5s. per day. The gap must also be maintained under a penalty of 1s. per day; and any alteration or obstruction, or contrivance to deter the fish from entering the gap, is punishable by a penalty of 1s. and upwards.

The boxes and cribs used in fishing-weirs or fishing mill-dams (i. e. dams used partly for fishing and partly for milling purposes), must be of a certain situation, and the bars or inscales of the heck or upstream side shall not be nearer each other than two inches, under a penalty of 5s. per day, and the same must be maintained under a penalty of 1s. per day. Spurwalls, c. more than twenty feet from the upper or lower side of the box or crib, are always prohibited, under a penalty of 1s. per day.

Central Authority of Home Office. The Home Office is invested with the general superintendence of the 1 See ante, p 37. 2 24 25 Vict. c. 109, s. 27.

3 Ibid. s. 28. Ibid.

Ibid. s. 29. ' Ibid. s. 30.

salmon fisheries throughout England and Wales, It has power to appoint and remove from time to time two inspectors, and assign them duties and salaries. The Home Office shall lay before Parliament the annual report of the inspectors.

Conservators of Salmon Waters. The Justices at any general or quarter sessions, may appoint conservators or overseers to enforce the Salmon Fisheries Act. No power, however, is given to these conservators to enter private grounds or waters, except where a search-warrant has been granted, and therefore they have none. Their duty will be chiefly to act as detectives and prosecutors; and in truth a conservator or overseer has no greater powers than any one of the public would have, except that he may be employed to execute a search-warrant, as is described in the next clause.

Justices Granting Search Warrants. The power of a Justice of the Peace to grant a search warrant, depends, as in other cases, on an information on oath, and the warrant must specifically describe the premises that are to be searched. It is scarcely necessary to observe that a search warrant applies only to places and things, and does

not authorize the apprehension of the person who committed the offence. The places are j laces where a breach of the Act has been committed, or where illegal nets or engines, or salmon illegally taken, are concealed. What are illegal engines, and what are salmon illegally caught, are described in the previous 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 31. Ibid, Â 32.

See next clause.

sections of the Act. At common law all the salmon caught l)y illegal means would belong to the person who caught them, and it is only where the statute expressly says that the salmon so caught shall be forfeited, that he loses this property in the salmon. Salmon illegally caught in this sense means salmon caught by means of the illegal engines, and at the illegal times specified in the Salmon Fisheries Act, but does not include salmon poached or caught by trespassers in a private fishery, as to which the poacher retains the property, for the Larceny Act does not say the fish are forfeited.

Apprehending Offenders. â There is no power given by the Salmon Fisheries Act to apprehend offenders, even where they are caught in the act; but the Larceny Act gives such power to any person to apprehend offenders under that Act, i. e. persons fishing in private fisheries without leave, if found offending."

Procedure and Peuidtics. â All offences must be prosecuted within six months after the offence is committed. The penalties are to be paid as follows: such part, not exceeding half, as the Justices may order, to the informer, the rest as provided by Jervis's Act, 11 12 Vict. c. 43. All forfeitures, i. e. all salmon illegally caught, illegal nets, c. are to be sold as the Justices may direct, and the proceeds applied in the some way as the penalties." Offences committed on

See ante, p. 85.

"24 2. T Vict. c. 96, Â 103, ante, 77.

24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35, ami the procedure is uudur Jervis's Act, 11 12 Vict. c. 43. 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 35.

rivers clmding counties may be tried in either county. i Offences committed on the sea coast beyond the jurisdiction of Justices, may be punished by the Justices of the county adjoinmg such sea. The ordinary jurisdiction of Justices extends to the shore between high and low water mark.

1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Â 36. 2 Ibid. Â 37.

3 Embleton v. Brmon, 30 L. J. 136, Q. B.

SCOTLAND. CHAr. T.

FISTTEEIES IN THE SEA OTHER THAN SALMON.

OPEN SEA FISHERIESâ TERRITOKIAL SEAS ANP NAVIGABLE RIVERSâ crown's RIGHT TO WHALESâ OTHER FISH THAN SALMONâ NAVIGATION PARAMOUNT TO FISHINGâ OYSTER FISHERIESâ MUSSEL FISHERIESâ HER-RING FISHERIESâ DEFINITION OF FISHERY.

Open Sea Fisheries. â The law of Scotland as to fishing in the open sea, as contradistinguished from the territorial sea, does not differ from the law of England, and the customs as to whale fishing are the same.

Territorial Seas and Navigable Rivers. â As regards the territorial seas and navigable rivers, the law differs in material points from the law of England.

Crown's Right to Whales. — As regards the right of the Crown to whales caught within the territorial seas, the right extends only to whales of a large size. —

Other Fish than Salmon. — The law of Scotland, like the law of England, recognises the right of the public. See ante, p. 5. *Ilitchiason v. Dundee Whaling Fishery Co.* 5 Jurr. 164; Ersk. 2, 1, 6; *Aberdeen Whale Co. v. Slitter*, 1 Macq. H. L. Cas. 355; *Addison v. Roiv*, 3 Paton, 334, 2 Ersk. 2, 1, 10; *Stair*, 2, 1, 33.

to fish in the sea and in public navigable rivers without any restriction, except as to salmon, which, as will be seen, is singled out from all other fish, and stands on its own footing. So far as regards other fish than salmon, the public are entitled to fish without any other restriction than is imposed by the Herring Fishery Acts; but even those Acts treat all the public alike, and only restrain fishing by certain nets and appliances, on grounds of public policy; whereas in England, even in the sea and public navigable rivers, the public may be excluded by an individual from fishing any kind of fish. In Scotland there is no such title competent to exclude the public from the right of fishing for sea fish other than salmon. The Crown, it is true, seems to have had power to grant the exclusive fishery of oysters and mussels, which adhere to the soil. Hence a general grant of land adjacent to the sea cum piscationibus would include oysters and mussels, provided the grantee had for forty years and upwards exclusively exercised the right of taking these; — and statutes protect such fisheries from depredation. The question, however, as to oysters, cannot be said to be settled, and the point was recently raised, whether the Crown had power to make a grant of oyster fishings in the seas surrounding the shores of Scotland, and whether the right to such fisheries still remains in the Crown, except it has been granted away to a subject, as is the case with regard to

See ante, pp. 15, 24.

À Bcmsey v. Kellics, 5 Br. Sup. 445; 2 Hailes, 723; 1 *Stair*, 2, 1, 5 Ersk. 2, 6, 17. 3 3 4 Vict. c. 74; 10 11 Vict. c. 92.

the salmon fisheries in the adjacent seas. The action was dismissed for want of a proper defender, without any opinion being expressed. With regard to lobsters, it has been held that the right to lobster fishing, which requires no landing on the shore, belongs to the public, and not to the owner of the adjacent shore; and it is doubtful whether forty years' possession of lobster fishings, under a general grant of fishings in the sea, or even an express grant from the Crown of lobster fishings, will support the exclusive right; — and the public cannot be excluded from taking limpets, cockles, whelks, and small shell-fish and sea-weed below high-water mark, though the owner of the shore has a grant of fishings in salt and fresh water, and a barony bounded by the sea.

As to floating fish other than salmon, though the Crown has sometimes granted the white sea fishings, the validity of such grant has never yet been judicially recognised, and has generally been doubted. Hence, even though the salmon fishing in the sea or a navigable river belong exclusively to an individual, the public have nevertheless the right to fish for other fish in the same locality, provided that they do not substantially injure such salmon fishing.

1 *Maitland v. Maclelland*, 21 Dec. 1860, 33 Sc. J. 102; *Commissioners of Woods and Forests v. Maitland*, 21 Dec. 1860, 33 Sc. J. 102. A grant of oyster fishing in

a loch, gives the right of exclusive possession; *Agneiv v. Mayor of Stranraer*, 2 S. D. 42.

D. Portland v. Gray, 11 S. D. 14. There seems to be a close season for lobsters from 1st June to 1st September, 9 Geo. II. c. 33, Â 4.

3 Hall v. Whilus, 14 D. B. M. 325.

â Ramsay v. Kellies, 5 Br. Sup. 445. Per Hope, J. C. Hall v. Whillis, 14 D. B. M. 325.

Navigation 2'aramount to Fishing. â It may also be noticed that the public right of navigation, as compared with the right of fishing, is the paramount right; and where fishing is incompatible with that, the right of the fisher must give way to that of the navigator.-

Oyster Fisheries. â The general law as to fishing oysters in Scotland has been amended by statute. A statutory enactment protecting oysters from larceny (which formerly existed in England in 7 8 Geo. c. 29, Â 36, now in 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 26) was extended to Scotland by the 3 4 Vict. c. T.

1 Colquhoun v. D. Montrose, M. 12827; *Grant v. D. Gordon*, 9 Mar. 1802, F. C. 20 Feb. 1782 F. C.

2 " If any person in Scotland shall wilfully and knowingly take and carry away any oysters or oyster brood from any oyster bed, laying, or fishei-y, being the property of any other person or persons, body corporate or politic, and sufficiently marked out or known as such, every such ofiender shall be deemed guilty of theft, and being guilty thereof shall be liable to be sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding the term of one year."â 3 4 Vict. c. 74, Â 1.

"And be it enacted. That if any person shall unlawfully and wilfully use any dredge, or any net, instrument, or engine whatsoever, within the limits of such oyster fishery in Scotland, for the purpose of taking oysters or oyster brood, although none shall be actually taken, or shall with any net, instrument, or engine drag upon the ground or soil of any such fishery, every such person shall be deemed guilty of an attempt to commit theft, and being convicted thereof shall be liable to be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the Court shall award; such fine not to exceed twenty pounds, and such imi risonment not to exceed three calendar months."â Â 2.

"Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall prevent any person from catching or fishing for any floating fish within the limits of any oyster fishery, with any net, instrument, or engine adapted for taking floating fish only."â Â 3.

"Provided always, and be it enacted. That nothing in this Act contained shall prevent or be construed to)revent any person or persons from exercising any right which may now be lawfully exercised within the limits of any such fishery."â Â 4.

Mussel Fisheries. â Thoughli in England mussels are not protected, like oysters, by penal enactments against depredation, they are protected in Scotland by statute 10 11 Vict. c. 92, which resembles the Scotch statute 3 4 Vict. c. 74, as to oysters.

Herring Fisheries. â The herring fisheries in Scotland were governed by the same statutes as those in England up to 1860, when two Acts for Scotland alone were ' "If any person in Scotland shall wiiruuy, leno vin; ly, and wrongfully take and curry away any nnisstds or mussel brood from any mussel bed, scalp laying, or fishery, being the

property and in the lawful occupation of any other person or persons or body corporate or politic, and sufficiently marked out or known as such, every such offender shall be deemed guilty of theft, and being guilty thereof shall be liable to be sentenced to imprisonment not exceeding the term of one year." 10 11 Vict. c. 92, § 1.

"If any person shall unlawfully use any dredge, or any net or instrument or engine whatsoever, or shall trespass within the limits of any mussel bed, scalp laying, or fishery in Scotland, being the property and in the lawful occupation of any other person or persons or body corporate or politic, and sufficiently marked out or known as such, for the purpose of taking mussels or mussel brood, though none shall be actually taken, or shall, with any net, instrument, or engine, or with the hand or otherwise, drag or fish upon the ground or soil of any such mussel bed, scalp laying, or fishery, every such person shall be deemed guilty of an attempt to commit theft, and being convicted thereof before the Sheriff of the County shall be liable to be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the Court shall award, such fine not to exceed ten pounds, and such imprisonment not to exceed three calendar months." 2.

3. Provided always, and be it enacted. That nothing in this Act contained shall prevent any person, lawfully entitled there to fish, from fishing for or catching any floating fish within the limits of any mussel fishery, with any net, instrument, or engine adapted for taking floating fish only." 3.

4. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall prevent, or be construed to prevent any person from exercising any right possessed by such person of taking bait, or any other right which may now be lawfully exercised by such person within the limits of any such fishery." 4.

passed.- As already stated, the legal method of catching herring is by drift-nets, having meshes of not less than an inch from knot to knot, or having thirty-six squares to the yard. Trawling for herring was introduced about the year 1838, and became a system in 1846, and was chiefly practised on the West Coast of Scotland. The trawl-net was used like the seine. Seining and trawling were rendered illegal by the Acts 14 15 Vict. c. 26, 23 24 Vict. c. 92, and 24 25 Vict. c. 72. A close time for herrings was also enacted for the West Coasts of Scotland up to Point Ardnamurchan, viz. from 1st January to 31st May, inclusive, and from the north of Ardnamurchan to Cape Wrath, from 1st January to 20th May, inclusive. And persons selling herrings or herring fry, which they know to have been taken on the West Coast during close time, incur a penalty of 5l. and forfeit the herring and boats.

Definition of Fishery. In Scotland the law of fishing, in point of nomenclature, has not been embarrassed by the unfortunate classification, which caused so much confusion in England, into common, several, and free fishery, and common of piscary. Those distinctions are entirely unknown. The right of fishing, whether public, or several, or free, is merely called by the generic name

See as to the previous statutes, ante, p. 28.

2 48 Geo. in. c. 110, § 12.

3 The report of the Royal Commissioners on the operation of the Acts relating to trawling for herring on the coasts of Scotland, recommends that the restrictions on trawl fishing should be withdrawn, and the fishermen left to choose their own mode of fishing.

23 24 Vict. c. 92, Â 4. 5 24 25 Vict. c. 72, Â I.

of the fishing or fishery, though the latter term is also frequently appropriated to the locality where the fishing exists. The rights, in point of substance, however, do not materially differ from those in England, for the distinctions represented by those terms, when properly explained, exist in the nature of the subject-matter.

Rigid to Salmon in Seas and Rivers. The right of the public to fish in the territorial seas and navigable rivers is not in Scotland embarrassed by the statute of Magna Charta, which has no application there. The leading distinction is between salmon and all other fish, and the leading principle is, that the salmon fishing by net in all the seas and rivers of Scotland belongs to the Crown until a grant can be shown to some individual. "There can be little doubt," says Lord Chelmsford, L. C. "that salmon fishings at an early period of the history of Scotland were regarded as possessing a peculiar value

Gammel v. Commissioners of Woods and Forests, 3 Macq. H. L. C. 455.

over other fishings, and were distinguished from them in a remarkable manner. They were classed *inter regalia*. They were only capable of belonging to a subject by an express grant from the Crown, or by a grant of fishings generally, followed by such an user of salmon fishing as proved that it was intended to be comprehended within the general terms of the grant." This doctrine is a fundamental one, and was thus described by twelve Scotch judges in a recent case: "According to the concurring testimony of all our law authorities, salmon fishing is considered as a beneficial right of property, and is held to be vested in the Crown; or perhaps, speaking more properly, to remain with the Crown, unless it has been made the subject of special grant to a private party. It is needless to speculate on the circumstances from which this susceptibility of appropriation took its rise—very probably from the value of the fish, combined with that peculiarity of its habits which rendered the operation of catching it, in a great measure, dependent or connected with the possession of the adjacent shore. But certain it is that by the law of Scotland it is a right of property, and, whether granted by or remaining in the Crown, a beneficial right." Accordingly, in the above case it was settled that the Crown has still the patrimonial right of fishing for salmon, not only in all the rivers of Scotland, but in the open coast surrounding it. See also *Craig*, 1, 16, 24; 2, 8, 7; *Edinburgh*, 2, 1, 10; 2, (5, 17; *Stair*, 2, 1, 5; 2, 3, 39. *Beu's Pr.* Â 646, 671.

2 *Quinnell v. Commissioners of Woods and Forests*, 3 Macq. II. L. C. 442.

the land, unless it can be shown affirmatively that the Crown has granted away such right to the subject.

The right, however, is confined to that kind of fishing which is carried on, not from ship-board, but by stake-nets, bag-nets, and by net and coble and other similar modes, all of which, it is a matter of notoriety, imply either the connexion of the apparatus with the coast, as in the case of stake-nets and bag-nets, or the use and possession of the coast as in the case of net and coble. In short, the modes of fishing on the coast, which are vested in the Crown, are those in which the use and possession of the coast is essential to the operation."

Therefore, when it is said that the Crown has also the exclusive right of fishing salmon in private rivers and streams, it must be understood with this limitation, that

it is only such right of fishing as can be exercised by other modes than angling or rod-fishing, for the riparian owner has always the right of rod-fishing for salmon as well as for other fish, as an incident of his right of property.² Indeed, rod-fishing for salmon is a distinct and independent right, and no length of user of it will found a right of salmon fishing with nets, c., even though there is a grant *cum piscationibus*?

Salmon Fishinff must be derived from Crown. â The leading principle of the common law, accordingly, is, that the right of salmon fishing by net and other means than angling must be derived from the Crown. The grant in *Gammell v. Commissioners of Woods and Forests*, 3 Macq. H. L. C. p. 454.

2 Bell's Pr. Â 671. *Buice of Sutherland v. Ross*, 14 S. U. 960; *Guthrie v. Ihiibar*, 26. June, 1855.

3 *Milne v. Smith*, 23 Nov. 1850, 13 D. B. M. 112.

may be either express *cum piscationibus salmonum*, or it may be general *cum piscationibus* only, provided in the latter case the possession under the grant has been of salmon fishing, for the user interprets and gives precision to what would otherwise be an indefinite right, and shows what was meant by the grant. The one kind of grant is quite as effectual as the other, if possession has accompanied the general grant. Hence a general grant of fishing, coupled with possession of salmon fishing, will prevail against a later express grant.

A Crown grant of *cruive* fishing has also been held good, though *cruives* are prohibited in some places by statute, - and *cruive* fishing has been held to be included in a grant of *coble* fishing, if followed by prescriptive possession of *cruives*. So dams have been recognised as legal if prescriptive possession has existed.

The kind of possession required under a general grant from the Crown *cum piscationibus*, in order to establish a right of salmon fishing with net and *coble*, must be fishing with net or *coble*, or some kind which includes it. Thus, proof of mere rod-fishing for any length of time will not set up the right. But a practice

D. of Queensberry v. V. Stormont, M. 14251; *Littlejohn v. Stratton*, 2 Paton, Ap. 19.

Grant v. D. Gordon, SI. 14297, 3 Paton, Ap. 679; *Johnston v. Stotts*, 4 Paton, 274.

3 *Marquis of Inverness v. Buff*, M. 14257.

Arhntnot v. Seott, 4 Paton, 337; *Scott v. Gillies*, 5 Paton, 750; *Robertson v. Mackenzie*, M. 14290.

5 *Milne v. Smith*, 13 D. B. M. 112; *D. Sutherland v. Ross*, 11 June, 1836, 14 S. D. 960.

for forty years and upwards of fishing - with *cairn-nets* in the *Tweed* was held sufficient, because in the statute affecting the *Tweed* that mode of fishing was recognised as legal, if the net was attached to the banks, and, moreover, in the user the opponent's banks were openly used, which was the characteristic of the fishing by net and *coble*. So mere fishing by rod and spear, or by hand-nets, will not suffice to set up a claim to fish by net and *coble*. If the practice is usual, no length of time can sanction it.

Mode of Fishing at Common Law in Rivers. â It is difficult to ascertain the common law of Scotland as to how far one riparian owner can exercise his skill and industry as well as avail himself of fixed machinery. Probably the only limit is that which is imposed by the maxim, *sic utere tuo ut alicui non Imcias*. But such questions have

not been left to the operation of the common law, for various ancient statutes have been passed which have given rise to a kind of secondary common law, and the result is that it is illegal to resort to any unusual method of catching the fish. Yet mere diligence or continuity of practice with the ordinary methods cannot be interfered with, though the real effect of that may be much the same as if some expeditious machinery or apparatus were invented which would have the effect of catching in an hour as many fish as the ordinary method would do in twelve hours or a week. If the party, for example, in the lower part 1 *Raifisay v. D. lioxbimjh*, 9 Feb. 1848, 10 D. B. M. 661; *Chisholm V. Fraser*, M. Ap. 14302; *Sutherland v. Boss*, 11 June, 1836. *Mackenzie v. Henton*, 2 D. B. M. 1078.

of a river uses all the diligence lie can in a lawful way, there is no common law or statute law to prevent him from catching every fish that attempts to ascend the river. The limitations on his power to do so arise from the habits of the salmon, and the limits to human skill and dexterity. It cannot be said that no improvement is to be allowed in the old-established mode of using the net and coble, nevertheless the question always comes round to this, Is the alleged practice substantially different from that of net and coble? '

Common Law as to Salmon, how far superseded by Statute. As regards the question how far the statutes and common law go in the way of restriction, Lord Neaves- says: " It is perhaps not easy to determine how far the old Scottish statutes as to salmon were intended merely to provide for the free passage of the fish, and the preservation of the breed, or were also designed to enforce a system of fair play among the several and successive heritors of fishings in the river. It may probably be thought that there was a double object in view; and it seems at least to be settled that any co-heritor of fishings in a river has a title and interest to object to the use of any illegal mode of fishing by any other heritor. Nor does it seem to be of any importance whether the illegality alleged arises from the express provisions of the statutes, or from the principles of common law, or even from that kind of common law which has been said in Scotland to spring up from the general import and tendency of the older statutes, 1 See *Hai) v. Provost of Perth*, 35 So. Tur. 4(53. *Hay V. Mag. of Perth*, 20 Dec. 1861.

where their provisions are not literally sufficient to reach the case. There seems with respect to salmon fishings in a river to be such an amount of common interest in the several proprietors, as to give a title to any one of their number to challenge the operations of another, when conducted in a manner which the law does not sanction."

So Lord Corehouse thus stated the general effect of the statutes: 2 " It is settled law that with the exception of cruives and yairs, every barrier or permanent erection placed in the channel of a river to obstruct salmon in ascending the stream, is illegal, whether the immediate object is to prevent their passage altogether, or to impede or delay it, so that they may be more easily taken below. Some of our statutes regarding this subject are loosely and imperfectly expressed, applying in words only to the illegal modes of fishing practised at their dates. But the evident object of all of them is that which has now been stated. Accordingly, it has been recognised as such in various cases, and effect has been given to it uniformly. To mention one example, though none of the statutes is expressly applicable to stake-nets, which are essentially different from

the old yairs, the Court had no hesitation in finding that those nets fell under the prohibitions. Indeed, 1 Tliesc old Scotch statutes are 1424, cc. 10, 11; 1427, c. 6; 1429, c. 22; 1457, c. 85; 1469, c. 38; 1477, c. 73; 1489, c. 15; 1503, c. 72; 1535, cc. 16, 17; 1563, c. 68; 1579, c. 89; 1581, c. III; 1685, c. 20; 1696, c. 33; 1698, c. 3: and the recent Scotch Sahnnon Fishery Act does not exi)ressly repeal the old statutes, and therefore they are in force so far as not inconsistent witli the latter.

2 Grant v. Mcwiluam, 10 D. B. M. 666.

the jrcncval rule has been repeatedly hid down that lishiii,-;- hy incaiis of any fixed machinery, or apparatus wliatever, or in any way except by net and coble' is illegal"

Result of Statutes and Common Law. â The result of these ancient statutes, and of the decisions, was thus authoritatively stated by Lord Westbury, L. C. after an elaborate review, to be as follows: "The principles which these Acts embody, and the objects which the ' "The common law, "says Hope, h. S. QARaiimtijw D. of Ruxhuryh, 10 D. B. M. 669) "will reach all kinds of obstmctiou in and across the river to the run of salmon; and all practices either destructive to the breed of the salmon, or so noxious to their tastes and instincts as to deter them from ascending higher than suits the interests of the)artj' using such practices e. g. the sheet covered with pitch). But modes of fishing not obstructing the passage of the salmon, and not noxious, the common law will not reach or put down."

"The common law," says Lord Deas (Â v. Provost of Perth, supra), "construed a grant of salmon fishing in a river as limited in respect of the mode or modes of fislung; and if limited at all, it is easy to see how it must, almost of necessity, have come to be held, as I think it has been, from the earliest times downwards, that the limitation was to the ordinary mode or modes of lishing in such rivers as those to which the grants were applicable. Nothing more was understood to be authorized by the general gi-ant. All unusual modes of lishiiiig reipiired special gi-ants or possession sufficicnt to presume such grants, and the main object of the statutes was to remedy abuses which had ai-isen from these special grants or presumed gr; ints, but certainly not to infringe upon the common law in a wrong direction, by enabling the holders of general grants to fish in any way, however unusual, not struck at by the statutes. It is impossible attentively to read these statutes, penal throughout, and to lu)ld that they form the whole law aplicable to the ditlerent modes of salmon hshing in Scotland. They may serve to show the spirit of the common law, but they ilo not exclude or supersede the common law, as is evident from many of the most authoritative decisions in the books which are not confined to the enforcing of these enactments, as they must have been hal there been no common law on the subject."

2 Hay V. Provost of Perth, 35 Sc. Jui-. 463, 4 JIacti. Ap.

legislature sought to attain, were directed to three objects: (1), to ensure to the salmon a free and unimpeded access to the upper fresh waters, which are the natural spawning grounds of the fish; (2), to secure the unimpeded return to the sea of the smolt or young fry of the salmon; (3), to prohibit the killing of unclean fish during the fence months. For the purpose of accomplishing these objects, which are clearly declared in various statutes from the very earliest times down to the latest, the statutes rendered it unlawful to erect any cruives or wears in the waters where the sea ebbs and flows. Cruives and wears were allowed in fresh waters with certain limitations. One

was that there should be a mid-stream, the width of which is carefully defined. The other, that the hecks (as they are called), that is, the interstices between the wicker-work of the cruives, should be at least three inches wide. Fishing is also prohibited at mill-dams by any description of fixed nets or engines. And there is an enactment rendering it absolutely necessary that a free passage should be given both at cruives and at the mill dams in fresh water, from Saturday evening to the rising of the sun on Monday morning. These are the objects which the statutes sought to accomplish, and while they include provisions for preserving the breed of the fish, they nowhere descend to any directions touching the mode or the manner of fishing. When we come to the decisions upon the subject, we undoubtedly find from the earlier decisions that the ratio decidendi has been to secure the free passage of the fish both up and down the river. The earlier decisions give that as the reason for holding that stent-nets were illegal; that stake-nets were illegal; that dykes and dams ought not to be erected, and that towing-paths could not be projected into the river for the purpose of fishing. And the general principle, and the reason for the determination, is therefore found to have been in strict conformity with the principles enumerated in the statutes. No doubt it was perfectly competent to the Courts in Scotland to extend their decisions beyond the letter of the enactments, proceeding upon that which we are accustomed to call in England the equity of the statute—a mode of interpretation very common with regard to our earlier statutes, and very consistent with the principle and the manner according to which Acts of Parliament were at that time framed. I do not, therefore, pretend to deny that, so far, the decisions are consistent with the general principles of the statutes, and are perfectly in conformity with the law, and probably we are right in coming to the conclusion that these decisions have gone so far as to make it clear law at the present time that it is illegal to fish for salmon with any net, or with any species of engine or machinery devised or constructed for catching fish, which is a fixture, which is at all fixed or permanent even for a time in the water; and if I were asked to define the conclusion which I should derive from the statutes and the decisions, it would be this, that it is not legal to fish with a net unless when the net continues in the hand of the fisherman. The net must not (quit the hand, and the net must be in motion during the operation of fishing. The net and coble is merely symbolical of the proper legal form of fishing, that legal form of fishing being by a net, which is not to be fixed or stented, or in any manner settled or made permanent in the river, but it is to be used by the hand, and it is not to quit the hand, but is to be kept in motion during the operation of fishing."

1 The decisions of the Courts from which the above conclusion was deduced, viz. that other modes of fishing salmon than net and coble are illegal, have been as follows:—Thus the Court has declared to be illegal all fixed nets for preventing the fish going up the river—*Duke of Queensberry v. M. of Annandale*, M. 14279; hang-nets, also cairn-nets—*Ziom v. Little*, M. 14282; *Chrmt v. McWilliam*, 10 D. B. M. 666; stake-nets and toot-nets—*Carnegie v. Ross*, 7 S. D. 284; *Ial-gleish V. B. Athole*, 5 Dow, 282; *Graham v. Dixon*, 6 Paton, 163; *D. of Athole V. Wedderburn*, 5 S. D. 153; dykes, *Cunningham y. Taylor*, Hume, 715; yairs, *Fraser v. Duff*, 8 S. D. 14, 5 W. S. 57; see *Murray v. E. Selkirk*, 2 S. D. 106; stent-nets fixed to an anchor in the stream—*Colquhoun v. Mag. of Dumbarton*, 4 Paton, 221; *Mackenzie V. Houston*, 25

May, 1830, 8 S. D. 796; or nets fixed to a stoneâ D. Qxieensberry v. M. Annandale, M. 14279; Coble Fishers of Don, M. 14287; fixed machineryâ Lord Gray v. Sime, 9 July, 1835; sights erected in alreofflinmuis, i. e. embankments to make the river shallow at places, so that the fish may be seen passing over, Forbes v. Smith, 2 S. D. 721, 1 W. S. 583; a dike of loose stones with a basket in the middle, Fife v. Gordon, M. Ap. 14304; cairn-nets (except in the river Tweed) and stream-dykes. Grant v. Mcwilliam, 10 D. B. M. 666; nets in combination with stakes fixed in the alveus of the river, Colqu-Iwun v. D. Montrose, M. 14281, 14283; cruives sheeted with pitch, Carnegie v. Mag. of Brechin, M. 14288. So also jilacing a row of loose stones, not of any considerable size, in the bed of the river, and not across it, but merely 07i the edge of a)0ool, to facilitate fishing hj net and coble, is illegal. Trustees of Coi land, 13 June, 1810, F. C. Even a spear cannot be used in combination with a permanent barrier, per L. Corehouse, Grant v. Mcwilliam 10 D. B. M. 667.

At a part of the Frith of Forth, two miles wide at full tide, but the proper channel being only half a mile wide, an enclo. sure of fifteen acres was made by stakes and netting at a distance of a mile and a â uarter from the river-bank, and so contrived that it opened as the tide flowed, and shut when the tide ebljcd, keeping in all the salmon that might have entered during the Mowing of the tide. Besides this, a line of netting 812 yards long ran obli uely down the river, and served to direct the fish to the enclosure, as well as to take the fish coming down with the ebb tide. The meshes of the net were twelve inches in cir-

Net and Coble Fisliing for Salmon. â The law, therefore, may now be taken to be settled, that the only ounmforenec. The Tipper)ropriotors having complained of tliis, it was iirged iu defence that the net did not destroy the fry, and that it did not oceu))y the whole of the proper channel of the river; but the Court held it contrary to the statutes, chiefly the Act 1583, E. Kinnoul V. Hunter, M. 14301.

So, where a net was used in the Tay, of which one end was fixed to the shore, and the other moored in the water, hut which had no poke nor hag to entrap the tish, and was drawn every tide, the Court granted an interdict iu these terms:â "Interdict from fishing ly means of nets stretched orstented in the river Tay, having tlie one end made fast to the shore, and the other fixed by a mooring in the water, and remaining stationary in the water, so as to obstruct the passage of the salmon, and force or decoy them into courts or enclosures of netting, within which they are caught; and further interdict from using any fixed machinery for catching salmon, or any other mode of fishing than the ordinarj mode by net and coble."â Gray v. Sime, 13 S. D. 1089.

The law as to rivers is distinct from tliat as to the sea, and there is, in fact, a separate code apjilicalde to each. Hence the owners of fishings on a river form a separate kind of community. Thus, where a river proprietor near the mouth of the river threw a wear across the river without leaving slaps in it for the passage of salmon, as required by the statute 1696, c. 33, it was held, nevertheless, that the owner of fishings in the adjacent sea had no title to complain and enforce the Act against the river-proprietor, though he alleged that, owing to the formation of tliewear, salmon had forsaken his fishery, Munro v. Ross, 7 July, 1846, 3 D. B. JI. 1029. So a river-proprietor has a right to "â omplain of a dam-dyke which obstructs the fish of the river, though he himself has erected. similar obsti' uctious, Forbes v. Leys, 9 D. B. M. 933, 5 W. S. 384. Where the

statutes prohibit stake-nets within flood-mark, or where the sea ebbs and flows, they are difficult of application to particular localities where there is a disputed boundary between salt and fresh water, *Ross v. Duke of Sutherland*, 3 Bell's Ap. C. 315, 6 D. B. M. 425. And the space between the highest flood-mark and the lowest ebb-mark is not always to be adhered to, and was held inapplicable to the Kyle of Dornoch. *Ibid.* Stake-nets are prohibited in the mouths of rivers, as well as in the rivers, *Mackenzie v.orne*, 16 S. D. 1286, but are not illegal in the sea, or places not close to the mouths of rivers, and not necessarily obstructing the fish there., *yfackenzic v. Syme*, 8 S. I). 1013; *Carnegie v. Ross*, 7 S. D. 284; *Carnegie v. Brand*, 4 W. S. 641; *E. Kintore v. Forbes*, 4 S. D. 641, 3 W. S. 261.

lawful ways of fishing are by the rod either from shore or a boat, or by net and coble, the essential feature of which last kind of fishing is that the net be not fixed, but held in the hand during the operation of fishing.

The ordinary mode of fishing by net and coble is as follows:â The coble or boat goes out with the net in it. The fisherman in the coble begins to drop or pay out the net at any point he chooses, embracing within his sweep as much of the stream as possible, or the whole breadth of the stream if he can do so. A person on shore holds a rope attached to one end of the net, and that rope is of such length as is suitable for drawing the net; the man with the coble makes a sweep, and arrives at a point farther down the river, and in the meantime the person who had hold of the rope at the point from where the coble started, makes his way by walking along the bank of the river, or in the river, till he reaches the point at which the net is to be drawn on shore, and then both ends of the net are drawn in.

It is not, however, to be tolerated that no improvement is ever to be made in all the stereotyped clumsy forms of using the net and coble which prevailed in ancient times, and that this is not the law was recently determined.

This point was solved by the Bermoney boat case in the river Tay. In 1821, a practice of fishing called the Bermoney system was introduced in the river Tay, which the other proprietors objected to as illegal. This system was as follows:â A pin, or stake, or other ful- 1 Hay V. Provost of Perth, 35 Sc. Jur. 463; 34 So. Jur. 115.

crum, is fixed in the alvius of the river, while another pin or fixture is fastened in the bank lower down the stream. Between these two points a rope is extended, along which a boat called a Berinoney boat is made to play. In connexion with the boat thus attached is another boat, being an ordinary coble, which, starting from the Bermoney boat at the point or pin fixed in the stream, carries out the net for fishing, into the current of the river. The tow-rope of the net is left in the Bermoney boat, and is taken back to land in that boat in the line of the Bermoney rope, while the outer end of the net is carried down the stream by the coble at a convenient sweep, and then landed near the pin on the shore, where the net is hauled in. The effect of this mechanism is, that the proprietor of the fishing can start with his fishing coble from a point farther out in the stream than the fishers could gain by wading, so that in a tidal river the parties using this method can fish longer in each day at the same place than would otherwise be possible, being enabled thereby to fish not only when the tide is out, but when it has risen so high that no one could stand in the water where the Bermoney boat can reach. The Bermoney boat is thus equivalent to a gangway or towing-path projected

into the channel, and affording an advanced basis for thence reaching the more central points of the stream when these would be inaccessible without such a contrivance. The legality of this method of fishing was discussed in the Court of Session, when that court held that it differed essentially from the ordinary mode of net and coble, and therefore was illegal. But on appeal, the

House of Lords reversed the decision, and held that the Bermoney boat system was in reality not substantially different from the net and coble, for the essential characteristic of the net and coble fishing was, that the net should be not fixed, but held in the hand of the fishermen during the operation, and the appliance of the Bermoney boat contained the same feature.

Net-fishing as between opposite Iljmrrian Owners. — Where fishing is by net and coble, it is the common practice, which parties on both sides have an interest to act on and preserve, that the sliot from either side is run out beyond the centre before the net is drawn in again to the side. This is, however, not a legal right, and cannot be insisted on by either of the opposite proprietors, except as matter of mutual accommodation. Lord Medwyn observes: "Although I believe that the arrangement as to the alternate shots may be held universal, as the only mode of carrying on fishings situated opposite to each other with the requisite advantage and equality, and without constant squabbling and breach of the peace, I cannot say that I would hold it a legal right to be enforced by a court of law; nor will it give any right to the one party to fish within the bounds of the opposite fishing, except for the net-fishing alone;" and as to rod-fishing, the learned judge thought the same was true. In a prior case, however, Lord Craigie said "Where a party has a right of fishing, I conceive he is entitled to shoot his nets quite across 1 *Milne v. Smith*, 23 Nov. 1850.

Milne v. Smith, 23 Nov. 1850, 13 D. B. M. 121.

Ashburton v. Mackenzie, 7 S. D. 849.

the river, and that it is an accessory of this right that he may draw his nets on the Lands ex adverso of those from which he has the right to fish; "and other Judges seemed to concur, where there were two parties having the right to fish the river together. Probably mutual convenience will lead to this arrangement seldom being objected to on either side.

Right of Fishier to use Banks and Shore. — The right of fishermen to use the banks for the purpose of fishing is not the same as to the sea as it is in rivers. In an old case it was said, "They who are infeft in salmon fishings by the king have thereby the right and privilege to draw their nets to the nearest land, and slay their fish upon the same, and to infix pales and trees upon the land adjacent to the river where the sea ebbs and flows, and to dry their nets upon them, and mend their nets; and albeit the said land be bound to the river, yet the heritors thereof must leave so much ley nearest the river-side as is necessary for the foresaid uses of the said fishings, and must neither till it nor dig dikes upon it, which may hinder the commonality of said fishing in manner aforesaid." In a recent case, however, a Judge of great experience said that "There is no common law right of the fishermen in the sea to draw their nets on shore above high-water mark, and it is doubtful even if user or custom for more than forty years will presume a grant or dedication by the owner." And where such use was alleged to

be founded on the statute 29 Geo. II. c. 23, it was held that the use was 1 Matlmvv. Blah; M. 14263.

Per Hope, L. J. C. *Hoyle v. Mccann*, 10 Dec. 185S, 31 Sc. Jur. 63.

confined to the limits specified, but was equally available to all persons fishing on the coast of Scotland.

Use of River Banks. â But as regards rivers, a party entitled to the salmon fishing is entitled to access to the banks on both sides of the river in order to exercise his right, though this must be done in a way the least oppressive to the adjoining heritors." Lord Craigie said: " A grant of salmon fishing gives as effectual a right to the grantee to make use of the adjoining banks for fishing as a disposition of property gives to a dis-ponee. It is an error to call it a mere servitude, for it is properly an accessory to that which is itself property; at the same time it must be used with discretion." The other Judges concurred. But a right to use the river banks for rod-fishing is not implied in the right of net and coble fishing." Thus where A had a general grant of salmon fishings in a river with net and coble, and B had the land adjoining one side thereof, but had no grant of salmon fishing, it was held that A had not an implied right to go on jb's lands to fish salmon with the rod.

Boundaries of Fisheries. â It is often difficult to ascer- 1 *Hoyle V. Mccunn*, 13 Dec. 1858, 31 Sc. Jur. 63.

2 *Monmusk v. Forbes*, M. 14263; *Forbes v. Smith*, 2 S. D. 721; *Miller v. Blair*, 4 S. D. 214. See also *Mackenzie v. Sutherland*, 2 W. S. 158.

3 4 S. D. 218.

Forbes v. E. Kintore, 4 S. D. 650.

5 *Giuhrie v. Dunbar*, 26 June, 1855, 27 Sc J. 511. Where a party had a grant of salmon fishing in and round an island in a river, and another party had a grant of salmon fishing adjoining his lands opposite, and the channel was too narrow to admit of both fishing without mutually encroaching, the Court held they had an alternate right of fishing. *Gray v. Mo(j. of Perth*, 1 Paton, Ap. 645.

tain the precise boundaries of a grant of salmon fishing, and litigation between adjoining proprietors thus arises. In construing grants of fishing, it has been held that a grant by A, the owner of the whole fishings in the river, to B, who was the owner of lands of S', on one side of the river, of the privilege of salmon fishing as far as the lands of S extended, and no further," was a grant of the fishing only on one side of the river, viz. next to S, especially where no possession of fishings on the other side had followed. A grant by the Crown to A of lands lying along part of the shore of a salt-water lake or bay, " with the fishing of salmon in the bay," is a grant of the whole of the fishing throughout the bay, opposite to the lands of other proprietors, though these have a general grant of fishings but no possession.-The only title which can compete with an express grant of salmon fishings in such a bay is a special title of the same order, or exclusive possession on a habile title for the year's of prescription. Lord Moncrieff observed, that it was an entire fallacy to suppose that a title of salmon fishing, expressly given over all the limits of a certain bay or river within specified bounds, does not give a right to fish vs adverso of another man's lands without proof of prescriptive possession of so fishing.

Reincdy hdur. oi Oivners of Fisheries. â Any proin'ietor of fishings in a river has a good cause of action or title to challenge any other person who resorts to illegal modes of fishing. An upper propirietor may sue ' Macinroy v. Btikeof A (ho, 11 Juiu', 1S58, 30 Sc. Jur. 665.- i fnckenzie v. Davidson, 27 Feb. 1841, 3 D. B. M. 646. 3 Ibid. p. 657.

a lower proprietor, or vice versa; i but proprietors of salmon fishings in an adjacent river have no right to complain of heritors who have a grant of fishing by net and coble from the Crown exercising snch right by stake-nets.

It frequently happens that one proprietor commences an action of declarator against another, and it turns out that his title is weaker than that of his adversary, in which case the action is dismissed.-" And a tacksman or proprietor of fishings on a river above a certain place cannot insist, by an action of declarator, that a proprietor lower down has no right to fish ex adverso of his own lands; in short, one who has no right at the same place cannot insist on a proprietor producing his titles so as to show whether the latter has it or not.

Remedy ly Inter did. â An interdict (or injunction) may be applied for in the local Sheriff Court, as well as in the Court of Session, though in the former case no suit is competent which resolves itself into a competition of heritable rights, or involves questions of title. Hence a party who produced title to the land adjacent to a loch, and alleged exclusive possession to the fishing therein, was held entitled to an interdict from the Sheriff' Court against one who fished there, for the petitioner only claimed a possessory right. An l Ei-. sk. 2, 6, 15; Colquhoun v. D. Montrose, M. 14283.

2 E. Kintore v. Forbes, 4 S. D. 641, 3 W. S. 261.

3 Lord Abercromby v. M. Breadalbanc, 18 July, 1843, 5 D. B. M. 1389.

â Mackenzie v. Houston, 6 S. D. 359, 8 S. D. 117, 5 W. S. 422; Mcu: kenzie v. Gilchrist, 7 S. D. 297; Sinclair v. Murray, M. 14277. â Johnstmicy. Gibson Craig,.5 Mar. 1862. Thu. s also A, who lias a Crowu charter c im inscationlbus, and avers interdict may be granted against the use of any mode of fishing except by net and coble. On the granting of an interdict, an account will be ordered to be kept of the fish taken till the riglit is tried;â and if necessary, the Court will order landmarks to be put up to divide the fishings."

Fisliiiuj of Localiti Laiuu. â The salmon fishing in a river being a valuable right, capable of being let separately from the lands, forms a valuable item in the yearly rent of the estate with which it is connected, and hence where a settlement makes it necessary to compute the yearly rent of an estate, in reference to certain provisions made to a widow or children, the value of the fishings must be included as an item, whether they are, in fact, let separately or not.

Fishing in a Lake. â The right of fishing in a lake, of which two or more are joint owners or common proprietors, may be alienated by any of the co-owners, or possessiou, is entitled to interim interdict against B fishing salmon within the limits of the charter, who has lands hut no such title, though he avers immemorial possession, Ross v. Robertson, 14 Nov. 555, 28 So. J. 5. So the owner of a loch and the salmon may ohtaiu interdict against any of the public who trespasses for trout fishing, Montgomery v. Watson, 28 Feb. 1861, 33 Sc. J. 312. On the other hand, where A has a general grant cum piscationilms, which the possession has not extended beyond

a certain point, he will not succeed in claiming the fishing beyond that point merely because his opponent's right is doubtful, *Richardson v. Jlai*, 12 Mar. 1862, 34 So. Jui-. 383.

Mackenzie v. Houston, 8 S. D. 796; *D. Atholl v. Wedderburn*, 5 S. D. 153. *Gray v. Sime*, 13 S. D. 1089.

2 E. Fife V. Mag. of Banff, 8 S. D. 137.

3 E. Goi-don V. E. Moray, 2 Patou, Ap. 78.

Leith V. Lcith, 5 June, 1862, 34 Se. Jur. 523; *Menzies v. Menzies*, 10 JI-ir. 1852, 14 D B. M. 651, 33 Sc. Jur. 718; *Sinclair v. Duffus*, 5 D. B. il. 174; *Macpherson v. Macpherson*, 1 D. B. JI. 794, 5 Bell's Ap. C. 280.

subdivided, provided the co-owner and his alienees do not take a larger right than the co-owner was himself entitled to. Where one of two co-owners of a loch has not had an exclusive possession, he cannot interdict the other from fishing merely because the other's title does not expressly include fishings. ' 1 *Menzies V. Macdonaki*, 2 Macfi- H. L. C. 463; 28 Sc. Jur. 453.

2 *Macdonald v. Farquharson*, 14 Dec, 1836, 15 S. D. 259.

Modern Acts Generally. â The salinou fisheries of Scotland long remained under the protection of the ancient statutes; but, in 1828, an Act for the preserv ation of the salmon fisheries in Scotland was passed, and an Amending Act in 18-i4.2 Though these Acts have not been expressly repealed by the recent Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 18G2, 24 25 Vict. c. 97, which came into operation on 1st January, 1863, they have been impliedly repealed almost entirely. By this last Act, the English Sahnnon Fisheries Act, 1861, will be applied, 9 Geo. IV. c. 39. 2 7 8 Vict. c. 95.

See the Appendix.

after 1st January, 1865, to the salmon fisheries in the Solway Frith, situated in Scotland, and to the rivers flowing into the same, though the offences will be punishable under the Scotch Act. The Tweed still remains subject to separate Acts, called the Tweed Fisheries and Amendment Acts; but three enactments in this Act extend to the Tweed, as afterwards noticed.

Fishery Districts. â Each river in Scotland which flows into the sea, and its tributaries and the sea-coasts adjoining, are to form a fishery district.

Fishery Commissioners. â The Home Secretary has power to appoint three Commissioners, with a salary and travelling expenses, to continue in office not longer than three years. Their duties are:â 1. To define the limits of each river and estuary from the sea. 2. To fix the limits of the Solway Frith. 3. To fix the limits of each fishery district. 4. To fix a point on each river below which are the lower proprietors, and above which are the upper proprietors. 5. To fix the dates of the annual close time for each district. 6. To make general regulations as to the due observance of the weekly close time, the construction of cruives, the construction and alteration of mill-dams, or lades, or water-wheels, the meshes of nets, and obstructions generally to the passage of salmon.

But these powers are not to interfere with vested rights of salmon fishing legally existing.

1 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 33. *Ibid.* Â 4.

3 *Ibid.* Â 5.

The difficulty of doing so at common law was shown in the case of *Ross v. D. Suiherlrxnd*, 3 Bell's Ap. 315, 6 D. B. M. 425. 5 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 6.

Annual Close Time for Salmon Fishing. â The annual close time for every district shall continue for 168 days. It shall apply to every mode of fishing, except angling where the close time for angling in a district has been made to commence later and end sooner. The annual close time fixed by 9 Geo. IV. c. 39 was only 139 days, and therefore an extension will become necessary. The annual close time for the Tweed is from 14th September to 15th February following.

The Commissioners have no power to reduce or increase the annual close time, but merely have the power, when they do determine, to fix the commencement. As regards, however, the annual close time for angling, they may alter it at discretion, provided always it commences not earlier nor ends later than the close time as to other kinds of fishing.

Weekly Close Time for Salmon. â The weekly close time, except for rod and line, shall be from 6 p. m. on 1 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 7. = *Ibid.* Â 8.

â 3 The Commissioners are in course of preparing bye-laws for the various fishery districts, and the close time proposed for net-fishing, c. is from 27th August to 10th February inclusive; but in some rivers the period likely to be adopted is from 10th September to 24th February inclusive. In order to ascertain with certainty what period is fixed for each district, reference must be made to the Edinburgh Gazette, or the sheriff clerk of the county, or the Fisheries Inspector's office.

22 23 Vict. c. 1xx. Â 6.

5 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 6, 7, 9.

6 *Ibid.* Â 6, 8. The Commissioners' bye-laws, in course of being prepared for each fishery district, are likely to fix the angler's close time as commencing on 16th October or 1st November, or intermediate days. But the angler must in each case, for certainty, refer to the Edinburgh Gazette, or the sheriff clerk of the county, or the Fisheries Inspector's office.

Saturday, to 6 a. m. on Monday. The time must not be less than thirty-six hours, but the Commissioners may, on the application of the district board, or of any two proprietors of fisheries in the district, vary the period, i. e. vary the hour at which weekly close time shall commence.²

Illegal Modes of Fishing. â Nothing in the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862, shall make legal the fishing, at any place, or by any mode, prohibited by any prior statute. This section applies to the Tweed. See post, "Poaching of Salmon."

Offences as to Salmon. â The statute (sect. 11) enumerates a variety of offences, which are made subject to a fine of U. and 21 per fish caught illegally, besides forfeiting, at the discretion of the magistrate, every boat, net, rod, line, or other article used in fishing. Such offences are, fishing in close time, selling fish in close time, catching or possessing unseasonable salmon, or young of salmon, c.

According to this enactment, a penalty is incurred for fishing with rod and line during the angler's annual close time, when the Commissioners by their bye-laws have prescribed a time. In England, rod-fishing for salmon is illegal only in November, December, and January. Before a person can be sure what are or are not offences

under this section, he must find out whether the Commissioners have published any bye-law 1 Ibid. Â 7. 2 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 7.

3 Unci. Â 10. 4 iind. Â 34.

Â The bye-laws of the Commissioners on the subject are alluded to ante, p. 196, Ante, p. 152.

as to close time, size of net-meshes, and otlier matters indicated in this and the sixth sections. During the weekly close time, an offence is committed by angling for salmon on Sundays; it is not so in England nor on the Tweed.

The clause as to selling salmon in close time is somewhat unreasonable, for it requires a party to ascertain not only the beginning and ending of close time in his own district, but in all the other fishery districts of Scotlandâ an inconvenience, however, which will probably be neutralized by the Commissioners making close time nearly uniform throughout Scotland, It is to be observed, also, that it is only the selling or offering of salmon for sale during close time that is an offence, and hence the party buying sabnon in close time commits no offence, though the purchaser of salmon in close time is in England subject to a penalty. It will be no offence for persons in Scotland to sell in the Scotch close time salmon procured from England or Ireland or abroad, provided he is ready to prove that he procured them from those places. It is also to be observed, that the angler, whose close time is shorter than that of the net-fisher, is nevertheless prevented from selling the fish angled durino- tlie longer close time. It is the same in England.

It is no offence (as it is in England) to buy or sell unseasonable salmon, provided the party has not the fish in his possession.

1 See ante, pp. 133, 157.- See post, Ch. V.

3 See ante (Â 19), p. 153. â Â See ante, p. 154.

See ante, p. 14i).

No offence is committed by allowing the young of salmon to go aside into canals, reservoirs, c., nor is it the duty of any owner to erect gratings, c., as in Ens: land;- in order to do so the district board must have the consent of all the river or estuary proprietors, and even then the board has no compulsory powers over private property.

Salmon-roë. â All persons using, or possessing in order to sell, salmon-roë for fishing, incur a penalty of 2., besides forfeiting the salmon-roë. Possessing or using salmon-roë for scientific, or other purposes than fishing, is no offence. Also using the roë of other fish for fishing is no offence in Scotland, though it is so in England. This enactment applies to the Tweed fishery.

Poisoning Rivers. â It is an offence to cause or permit to flow into salmon rivers poisonous matter, or sawdust. The common law as to the right of riparian owners to discharge foul matter into streams is substantially the same as in England, but the prescriptive period for acquiring an absolute right to poison the waters is forty years.

There is also an enactment in the Nuisances Kemoval 1 Anu, p. 149.

Â 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 12. See the similar section of the English Act, ante, p. 144, and Appendix.

Ante, p. 145.

5 25 26 Vict. 0. 97, Â 34.

Â Ibid. Â 13.

See ante, p. 138.

8 Miller, M. 12823; Russell, M. 12823, 3 Paton. 403; Darnie, 4 S. D. 167; Dun, 15 S. D. 858. *Montgomerie v. Findlay*, 15 D. B. M. 853; *Ewen v. Guthrie*, 10 D. B. M. 513.

Scotland Act as to fouling rivers with gas wasliings, dye-stuffs, c.

Duties of Fishery Commissioners â The Fisheries Commissioners are bound to visit and report on each river and estuary of Scotland, after giving notice by advertisement in the local newspapers." They were also bound, before 1st January, 1863, to make bye-laws, fixing the limits of estuaries, and the point of each river where upper proprietors are divided from the lower proprietors, due notice being given in the local newspapers, and after the bye-laws are made, and approved by the Home Secretary, they shall be published in the Edinburgh Gazette, and other newspapers to be appointed by the Home Secretary. The Commissioners are also to make bye-laws as to the other matters specified in the sixth section of the statute, such as the close season, the use of cruives, c. but the time for doing so has been extended by 26 27 Vict. c. 50, Â 1, until 1st January, 1866. Before making such bye-laws, the Commissioners must give due notice to each district board, so as to allow the latter an opportunity of being heard on the subject; and when the bye-laws are made, they are to be sent to the sheriff clerk, who is to publish them in the local newspapers. An opportunity of four months is given to persons interested, to make representations to the Home Secretary, and when approved, bye-laws are to be published in the Edinburgh Gazette, and such other modes as the Secretary of State may direct. One of these other modes ought to be the printing of 19 20 Vict. c. 103, 19.- II. i. 1. Â 14.

a Ibid. Â 15. See Appendix.

these bye-laws on a board, like a table of turnpike tolls, which may be fixed in the market-place, or other public place of resort, in all the towns and villages of the district, so that random fishermen, as well as residents, may have a ready mode of ascertaining points of such essential importance in the pursuit of fishing.

The Fishery Commissioners have power to compel the attendance of witnesses before them, in the same way as courts of justice.

Fishery District Boards. â Within three months after the bye-law of the Commissioners has fixed a district, the roll of proprietors is to be made up by the sheriff clerk, who is to call a meeting. The qualification of an upper proprietor is the property of a fishery valued at 20Z. and upwards, or of half-a-mile of frontage to the river or a tributary thereof, with a right of salmon fishing; the qualification of a lower proprietor is the property of a fishery valued in the valuation roll at 20Z. and upwards. The sheriff is to decide the qualification in case of dispute. The upper proprietors are to meet and elect not more than three of their number to be members of the district board, and the lower proprietors are to do the same. In voting on this occasion, any proprietor of a fishery valued at more than 500Z. is to have one vote for every 500Z. and a fraction of that sum, but not more than four votes in all. These two sets of elected members, together with the largest proprietor in value, who is the chairman, with a casting vote, constitute the district board. The board is to meet within ten days after their first election. Ibid. Â 17. 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 18.

tion."i And tlien the sheriff clerk is to give notice of the time of tlie first meeting, which may be hehl any time within twenty-one clays after the first election. If in the upper or lower division the number of proprietors is less than three, then the board is to consist of an equal number from each division, presided over by the largest proprietor as chairman; if the largest proprietor be the sole upper or sole lower proprietor,, he is to have two votes, and if there be only one proprietor in a fishery district, he is to have all the powers of a board. A mandatory, appointed in writing, may act for the proprietor." The sheriff clerk is to be paid a reasonable remuneration by the district board. The district board may sue and be sued in the name of their clerk (who need not be the sheriff clerk, there being power to appoint any other person clerk). If the board consist of more than six members, three shall form a (Uoruni; if less than six members, two shau form a quorum. The district board continues in office for three years, but the members may be re-elected.

Powers of District Board. â The district board is to have powers subordinate to the Fishery Commissioners, and these are confined chiefly to details of administration, such as appointing and removing constables, water-bailiffs, watchers, and similar officers; they may make arrangements with other district boards to keep a staff of officers in common, or with the police committee i 2.") 26 Yict. c. 97, Â 22. 26 27 Vict. c. 50, Â 2.

3 Il. i. 1. Â 19. â Â It'id. Â 20.

Ibid. Â 21. Â Il. id. Â 22.

' Ibid. 22. 8 Ilnd. Â 24.

of the county, for the payment of extra constables. But though the district board may " alter from time to time regulations for the preservation of the district fisheries," such regulations, besides requiring for their validity the approval of the Secretary of State, shall not interfere with any vested right of property, and shall not authorize any encroachment or trespass on private property. The approval of the Home Secretary, though necessary, does not establish the validity of such regulations, for that depends not on the views of the Home Secretary, but upon the law of the land. The district board, for example, could not alter the close time, nor the size of the meshes of nets, nor authorize any of their officers to enter the land of any proprietor for detective purposes. "Whether a particular proprietor is entitled to fish in a particular way, is a question of law, and not within the scope of the determination of any district board, or even of the Commissioners themselves, whose powers are subject to the same limit by the sixth section. The validity of a bye-law is often a nice question of law; and any person prosecuted for a penalty imposed by any bye-law, which penalty cannot in any case exceed 21? may set up as a defence that the bye-law is illegal.

Assessments hy District Boards. â The mode in which a district board raises the funds to pay the sheriff clerk, their own clerk and officers, is by assessing the proprietors of fisheries according to their value in the Valuation Itoll. If a fishery is not valued in the

J 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 22. ji ij, g 25.

3 Ibid. Â 23.

Valuation Eoll, but the proprietor claims to vote in tlie election of members of the board, then his fishery shall be taken to be of the value of 20. In assessing the

fishery proprietors the board has all the powers of Commissioners of Supply, and are to proceed in the way pointed out by 20 21 Vict. c. 72: that is to say, the assessment is payable for the period from Whitsunday to Whitsunday, and may be levied either on the proprietor or tenant; but if the tenant pay the assessment he may deduct the amount from his rent. A summary warrant may be issued for recovery of the assessments. Any dispute between the fishery board and the party assessed, as to the assessment, is to be settled by the sheriff on a written petition of either party, and his decision shall be final.

Seizure of Forfeited Articles. â Wherever the Salmon Fisheries Act directs any net, rod, line, or other article to be forfeited the same may be seized by any constable, water-bailiff, watcher, or officer, and the sheriff or Justice may order it to be destroyed or sold, and the proceeds paid to the clerk of the board. The articles which are declared to be forfeited are " every boat, net, rod, line, or other article used for taking salmon, and found in possession of the party at the time of the committing of the offence." The property is not forfeited until a conviction takes place; but an inchoate forfeiture takes place when the offence is committed, and power is by the Act expressly given to certain persons to seize the above articles of property in certain circumstances. 20 21 Vict. c. 72, Â 29. = Ibid. Â 32.

3 Ibid. Â 33. â Â 25 2(3 Vict. c. 97, Â 27.

stances. The power being in derogation of the common law must be strictly construed. It is only constables, water-bailiffs, watchers, or other officers appointed by the district board who can seize the things, and no other persons can do so. Even the owner or lessee of the fishery has no power to make the seizure. Moreover, the articles can only be seized on the spot where the offence is being committed, and when they are in the poacher's possession, and hence if the poachers escape no seizure can be made. The salmon caught are not forfeited by this Act; but by the 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, Â 2, if salmon are caught during close time, whether by a poacher or not, they are forfeited. If the Justice before whom the offender is brought, or sheriff, so order, the forfeited property may be destroyed or sold; but if he make no order, it belongs to the constable, c. seizing.

Three or more Poaching Salmon at Night. â Where three or more persons in concert illegally fish by night, i. e. between the expiration of the first hour after sunset and the beginning of the last hour before sunrise, in any river, or estuary, or the sea, they are liable to a fine of 5. each, or to imprisonment for three months, according to the discretion of the Justice or Sheriff. This enactment applies to the Tweed Fisheries. The enactment resembles a similar enactment as to poaching game by night.

Procedure to recover Penalties. â The clerk of the district board. 1 See Paterson's Game Laws, as to similar enactments, Gi, 94.

2 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 27.

3 Ibid. Â 34.

â See Paterson's Game Laws of the United Kingdom, p. 101.

district board or any other person may prosecute offences under this Act, and the Sheriff or two Justices of the place where the offence was committed have jurisdiction. The convicted party may appeal, on finding security for costs and penalty, to the Court of Justiciary, under 20 Geo. II. c. 43, but there is no advocacy allowed. The Sheriff

may enforce specific performance of any bye-law of the Commissioners or district board." The party proceeded against may be ordered to pay the prosecutor's costs. The penalties shall be paid to the clerk of the district board if he is the prosecutor, towards defraying the board's expenses; and, if otherwise, to be applied as the Justices or Sheriff shall direct.

Poachers of Salmon. The general offence of poaching salmon is punished by 7 8 Vict. c. 95, s. 1, which, not being superseded by any similar enactment in the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862, is still in force.

1 25 Vic-t. c. 97, s. 28. 2 j.,,! s. 29.

3 Ibid. s. 30. 4 l, i, i. s. 32.

"If any person not having a legal right or permission from the proprietor of the salmon fishery shall from and after the passing of this, wilfully take, fish for, or attempt to take, or aid or assist in taking, fishing for, or attempting to take, in or from any river, stream, lake, water, estuary, lirth, sea loch, creek, bay, or shore of the sea, or in or upon any part of the sea, within one mile of low-water mark, in Scotland, any salmon, gillie, sea trout, whiting, or other fish of the salmon kind, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not less than ten shillings and not exceeding five pounds for each and every such offence, and shall, if the Sheriff or Justices shall think proper, over and above, forfeit each and every fish so taken, and each and every boat, boat tackle, net, or other engine used in taking, fishing for, or attempting to take fish as aforesaid; and it shall be lawful for any person employed in the execution of this Act to seize and detain all fish so taken, and all boats, tackle, nets, and other engines so used, and to give in-

The statute 7 s. 8 Vict, was itself an amendment of the 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, s. 3, which being defective was impliedly repealed by it. By this enactment, of 7 8 Vict., a person who fishes in another's fishery for salmon incurs a penalty " unless he has a legal right or permission." In order to ascertain whether he has a legal right it is to be recollected that though all salmon fisheries in Scotland belong either to the Crown or to a grantee of the Crown, that doctrine applies only to salmon fishing with the net and coble and other higher rights. But as regards rod-fishing no grant of the Crown is necessary, and therefore it seems to follow that it is one of the riparian rights. If so, then whoever is a riparian owner at the point in question has a legal right to angle for salmon there, though the net and coble fishing belongs to the Crown and its grantees. If there is no legal right in the above sense, then permission from the proprietor is necessary not only to fish salmon with the net and coble, but even with the rod.

formation thereof to the Sheriff or any Justice of the Peace, and such Sheriff or Justice may give such orders concerning the immediate disposal of the same as may be necessary." s. 7 8 Vict. c. 95, s. 1.

"The regulations as to the recovery and application of penalties and the apprehension of offenders, and all other enactments and provisions of the Act 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, shall extend and apply to what is herein above enacted, and this Act shall be construed and applied in the same manner and in all respects as if it had formed part of the said recited Act." Ibid. s. 2.

"Nothing herein contained shall be construed as depriving any proprietor of salmon fishery of any right now by law vested in such proprietor to prevent any person from fishing either within or beyond the limits specified in the Act." *Ibid.* Â 3.

"Nothing herein contained shall affect the rights or propriety of the Crown." *Ibid.* Â 4.

The permission need not be in writing, It must be clearly proved. And it must be obtained beforehand from the owner of the fishery, for in a similar enactment as to the Game Laws it has been held that no *ex post facto* sanction or ratification by the owner after he hears of the illegal fishing will purge the offence. Therefore, where a person goes to fish in another's fishery for salmon without previously obtaining express permission from the owner, however well-founded may be his belief that the owner if asked would not refuse, commits this offence." It is true that in 12 Wm. IV. c. 32, Â 30, the word " wilfully" is not inserted, but that word in reality means only knowingly, i. e. with knowledge that the fishery belongs to another, and therefore the enactment is substantially the same as the present. The penalty, however, is only incurred in rivers, streams, &c. and not in the sea, except it be within one mile of low-water mark. Therefore, a person may fish with nets for salmon at a greater distance than a mile from the sea-shore without committing any criminal offence under this section, though he may be liable in a civil action of damages to the proprietor.

According to the construction given to similar enactments a person can only be convicted of one offence on one day, however numerous may be the acts of poaching on that day.

Apprehension of Poachers of Salmon. Â Any person

Easton v. List, 1 Brown, Just. C. 95.

M 2 Wm. IV. c. 32, Â 30; *Paterson's Game Laws*, p. 56.

s Morden v. Porter, 7 C. B. N. S. 88.

Ibid.

See *ante*, p. 77, 145.

may, without warrant, seize and detain a poacher of salmon. In order to justify the apprehension, the poacher must be found in the act of committing the offence, and on the spot where he offended. If he escape from the spot, and an interval of time has elapsed, the power to apprehend is gone, though it seems a poacher may, if found committing the offence, and then taking to flight, be pursued and seized *flagrante delicto*. When seized the poacher must be taken before a Justice of the Peace with reasonable promptitude, and the apprehender may leave the poacher in the hands of the constable while he goes in search of the Justice, and no written plaint or information is necessary in such a case.

Procedure and Penalties for Poaching. Â The prosecution for penalties must be commenced within six calendar months after the offence was committed; and a conviction under the statute is complete satisfaction, and a bar of other proceedings. A Justice may act though interested in the fishery, if he or his tacksmen are not parties to the proceeding." The penalty for poaching salmon shall go to the informer. The party 1 " And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any person, without any warrant or other authority than this Act, herevi memu, to seize and detain any person who shall be found committing any offence against this Act, and to carry such person

before any Justice of the Peace or other Magistrate, or to deliver such person to a constable, who is hereby required to carry such person before a Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, who shall forthwith examine and discharge, or commit such person until caution *de judicio sisti* hi found, as the case may re-fuire."â 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, Â 11.

Evans v. Macloughlan, 4 Macq. Ap. C. 89.

3 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, Â 13.

4 Ibid. Â 12.

5 Ibid. Â 9.

convicted may appeal to the Circuit Court of Justiciary, 1 " Provided always, and he it enacted, That each and every penalty-provided by this Act shall go to the informer, and may and shall be recoverable, with expenses, as well before the Sheriff as before the Justices of the Peace of any county as aforesaid wherein the same may be incun-ed, or where the offender shall reside, at the instance of any person or persons who shall prosecute for the same; and in prosecutions for the different penalties imposed by this Act, or any other Act for the preservation of the salmon fisheries in Scotland, it shall be lawful for the Sheriff or Justices before whom any complaint for the recovery thereof may be brought, to proceed in a summary way, and to grant warrant for bringing the parties complained upon immediately before them, and on proof on oath by one or more credible witnesses, or confession of the offence, or other legal eraleuce, forthwith to determine and give judgment in such complaint, without any Avritten pleadings or record of evidence, and to grant warrant for the recovery of all penalties and expenses decerned for, failing payment within fourteen days after conviction, by pointing and imprisonment, for a period, at the discretion of the Sheriff or Justices, not exceeding six months, it being hereby provided that a record shall be preserved of the charge and of the judgment pronounced; and any person or persons who shall think himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any judgment of any Sheriti" or Justices, pronoinced in any case arising under this Act, or by assessment made under this Act, in Scotland, may appeal to the Commissioners of Justiciary at thleir next Circuit Court, or where there are no Circuit Courts, to the Higl Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, in the manner, and by and under the rules, limitations, conditions, and restrictions contained in the Act passed in the tventieth year of the reigu of King George the Second, for taking away and abolishing the heritable jurisdictions in Scotland; with this variation, that such person or persons shall, in place of finding caution in the terms prescribed by the said Act, be bound to find caution to pay the penalty or penalties, and expenses, awarded against him, her, or them by the sentence or sentences appealed from, in the event of the appeal or appeals being dismissed, together with any additional expenses that shall be awarded by the Circuit Court on dismissing the said appeal or appeals, and it shall not be competent to appeal from or bring the judgments of any Justices or Sheriff acting imder this Act under review, by advocacy or suspension, or by reduction, or in any other way than as herein provided."â 9 Geo. IV. c. 39, Â 9.

The conviction for contravention of 9 Geo. IV. c. 39 being of a penalty in the nature of criminal process, the defender may be im- prisoned for non-pajntment, though the sum is under 8. 6s. 8d. Law-son V. Jcpp, 16 Feb. 1853.

The complaint is not too vague if it describe the fishing to be in the river S in the parish of A, though there are thlue'e miles of such river in the pariah; and the Court

will not quash a conviction, though it do not set forth that it proceeded on the oath of a credible witness. *Ben-net V. Hincmy*, 6 Feb. 1860, Just. C. 32 Sc. J. 476.

The appeal from a conviction must be to the next Circuit Court of Justiciary, *Mcphail v. Campbell*, 18 Mar. 1861, Just. C. 33 Sc. Jur. 383.

COMMON LAW AS TO TROUT FISHINGâ FISHINŋ TROUT WITH NKTSâ RIGHT OF TROUT FISHINGâ LEGAL MODES OF FISHING TROUT BEFORE 1860 â RIGHT OF TENANTS TO FISH TROUTâ CLOSE TIME â TRESPASSING TO FISH TROUTâ POWER TO SEIZE NETS OF POACHERS â POWER TO APPREHEND POACHERSâ JUSTICES INTERESTEDâ PROCEDURE AGAINST POACHERS.

Common Law as to Trout Fishing. â The common law of Scotland, as already stated, makes this distinction between salmon and all other kinds of fish, that, whereas it is an incident of the ownership of land or one of the riparian rights to catch all other fish, and in navigable rivers and the sea the public may also catch all other fish, yet in order to fish for salmon with nets, either in a river or the sea, a grant from the Crown must be shown; and even as regards salmon it is only the right of catching them with nets or cruives, or what is called a higher right than net fishing, that requu'es to be derived from the Crown. It follows that rod fishing for salmon does not in any way depend on a Crown grant, but passes Avith the dominium iitile of the lauds.

1 *Sutherland v. Ross*, 14 S. D. 960. It must yii'UL, however, where suhstantiallij iicompatible, to the sujiorior right of the Crowu grantee.

On the same principle trout fishing passes as one of the incidents of ownership and as a riparian right. But statutes have passed which vary in some respect the ordinary common law as to trout and other freshwater fish. And it may be well first to state the statutory restrictions put on fishing for trout and freshwater fish with nets and otherwise than by netting.

Fishing Trout ivith Nets, c. â The statute 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 1 imposes a penalty on all who poach trout or other freshwater fish By this section, and the iuter- 1 " Wliereas by the Act 8 9 Vict. c. 26, intituled An Act to prevent fishing for trout or other freshwater fish by nets in the rivers and waters in Scotland, provision is made for preventing the destruction of trout and other freshwater fish by nets in the rivers, waters, and lochs of Scotland: And whereas there are various other ways by which trout and other freshwater fish may be destroyed which have not yet been declared illegal: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same:

That it shall not be lawful for any person whatsoever (except as hereinafter provided), at any time after the passing of this Act, to fish for trout or other freshwater fish in any river, water, or loch in Scotland, with any net of any kind or descrijition, or by what is known as double rod fishing, or cross line fishing, or set lines, or otter fishing, or burning the water, or by striking the fish with any instniment, or by pointing, or to put into the water lime or any other substance destructive to trout or other freshwater fish with intent to destroy the same; and if any person shall wilfully take, fish for, or attempt to take, or aid and assist in taking or fishing for, or attempting to take or fish for, in or from any such river, water, or loch, any trout or other freshwater fish

by or with any net of any kind or description, or by double rod fishing, or cross line fishing, or by set lines, or otter fishing, or by burning the water, or striking the fish with any instrument, or by pointing, or 1) by putting into the water lime or any other substance destructive to trout or other freshwater fish with intent to destroy the same, such person shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding five pounds for every such offence, besides forfeiting the trout or fish taken, and also every boat or net, tackle, instrument, or other article in or by pretation clavise, sect. 9, the prohibition against fishing for trout Avith the means described extends to almost every piece of water which trout frequent. As, however, at common law all these modes (except, perhaps, that of poisoning with lime) were competent, the statute must be strictly construed, and the modes of fishing specified, and those only, will be held illegal. Hence, for example, catching fish with the hand is not a penal offence. The offence also is prohibited by very extensive words, " fishing for, taking, or attempting to take;" and hence in order to commit the offence it is not necessary that any fish be actually taken by illegal means.

According to the ordinary construction put on similar language it seems that only one offence will be committed on one day, however numerous may be the distinct attempts to fish. The fish caught, as well as the nets, c. are forfeited. Rods are included, but not a fishing basket. The forfeiture is incurred only after conviction; and the Sheriff or Justice has power to dispose of the forfeited property. If the property forfeited is not disposed of, it seems to belong to the partn' authorized to seize under the third section, for seizure implies the right of property as well as possession.

Right of Trout Fishing. â The proviso at the end of the section saves from the penalty all those " who have which the same may have been taken or attempted to be taken, and shall also pay the full expenses of the conviction: Provided that notliing in this Act contained shall prevent any person having the right to fish in any river, water, or loch in Scotland, or any person having permission from such person, from exercising the right of fishing in such river, water, or loch in any mode not prohibited by law prior to the passing of this Act."â 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 1- See ante, pp. 77, 145.

a right to fish in any river in any mode not already prohibited." The questions arise, therefore, (1) Who are those M'ho have a right to fish generally by all legal modes? (2) "What modes are illegal by other laws in force before the passing of this Act?

What locre Legal Modes of Fishing Trout before 1860. â The right of fishing at common law is one of the riparian rights of owners, for fishing is merely one of the uses of water. There is, however, no restriction placed upon the riparian owner as to the mode of fishing, unless such mode is a violation of the maxim sic utere ttio ut alienum non Icedas. So long as a riparian owner does not exercise his right in such a way as to prevent his neighbour getting any similar use of the stream, he is beyond the reach of the law. Thus, erecting a wear is obviously illegal in this sense; and poisoning a stream with lime or other noxious material, so that the poison flows downwards and kills the fish in the lower proprietor's water, is, as against the latter, obviously illegal at common law. But merely fishing with nets, spearing, burning the water, and other modes mentioned in this statute, are all competent at common law, for they are only different means of exercising the right of fishing, which do not substantially prevent the neighbouring riparian owners from acting in the same way, or in any other way

competent. Therefore, so far as the mere machinery of catching fish does not sensibly prevent other riparian owners from catching in the same way, there seems to be no restriction at common law, except in the case of wears or poisoning the water.

Right of Tenants of Land to Fish Trout. The next question is, Who is the person who has the legal right of fishing for trout generally, i. e. with nets and other competent means? The answer is, that all riparian owners have this right as an incident of ownership. Where the owner has, however, let the land to a tenant, the question may arise, whether the owner or the tenant is to enjoy the trout fishing. If the lease expressly let the fishing to the tenant, there is an end of the question; but the difficulty arises whether, when the lease is silent, the right of fishing is in the tenant also.

The Duke of Richmond granted a lease of the farm of Pitscurry, in Aberdeenshire, to Dempster. A stream, called the Deveron, runs through the farm, and nothing was said in the lease about fishing. Dempster having fished the trout in this stream with a net, he was proceeded against by the Duke under the stat. 8 9 Vict. c. 26, for a penalty (and the same language is used in the 23 24 Vict. c. 45 s. 1). It was admitted that the whole question turned on whether the tenant came within the words of the statute, which exempted from its provisions "all persons having a right to fish for trout or other freshwater fish." If he had a right as tenant, then he was not liable to the penalty. The Court of Justiciary consisting of five Judges, per Inglis, C. J. came to the following conclusion: "We are of opinion that an agricultural tenant has not, as such, any right to fish in a stream running by or through his farm with any net of any kind or description. And, being of that opinion,

Duke of Richmond v. Dempster, U. J. 1860, Just. C. 33 Sc. Jur. 133.

we think it quite unnecessary to go further for ground of judgment. Whether an agricultural tenant, as such, may have any right to angle or not, or to fish in any other way for freshwater fish, is not *hujus loci*, because the statute deals entirely with net fishing, and contemplates no other kind of fishing."

This Decision Questioned. This decision clearly enough states the law to be, that in agricultural leases, where nothing is said, the landlord and not the tenant has the right to fish for trout with nets. But as the judgment refers to no authority and states no reason, it will be open to the tenant to reason thus. The right of fishing for every fish (except salmon, with nets, &c.) is one of the riparian rights, being one of the natural uses of water. At common law the machinery by which fish (other than salmon) are caught is utterly immaterial, provided the neighbour's right is not prejudiced, and no one has a Crown grant of salmon fishing to be injured thereby. There is no magic in the word net. Now, a lease is a contract by which the landlord *inima facie* assigns the exclusive possession of the surface of the land (which includes the use of water) to the tenant, and though there are restrictions put on the mode of cropping, and an implied exception of the mines, the timber, and the game, yet an additional exception of the use of water has never been recognised by any authority. Therefore the landlord, if he came to fish in the stream, would at common law be a trespasser, and (which is the 1 M. 9645. Mackenzie, 8 S. D. 816; 6 W. S. 3L Macdonald, 15 S. D. 259. At most net fishing could only be treated as injurious to salmon fishing (by nets). But there may be few or no salmon.

same proposition) the person who alone is entitled to the exclusive use of the water and of the banks of the stream, for all lawful purposes, is the tenant, for he has, by contract, all the uses which his landlord would have. In short, to draw any distinction between the legal right to catch trout with a net and with a rod is a confusion of ideas derived from the doctrine applicable to salmon, but to no other fish; by which doctrine net fishing of salmon is not a riparian right, but rod fishing is.

Close Time. It may be observed that there is no close time as to trout and freshwater fish other than salmon, and therefore they may be fished all the year round, if the party has the legal right to fish.

Trespassing to Poach Trout. All trespassers with intent to fish trout are liable to a penalty. It is difficult to see what there is in section 2 which is not contained in the first section; the only difference seems to be a mere change of the phrase. In the first section all persons not having the leave of the person entitled to fish, who fish, or attempt to fish i. e. all trespassers with intent to fish), are liable to the penalty; here, in terms, all trespassers with intent to fish are subject to the penalty. Both sections mean one and the same thing. The offences seem to be one and the same, and therefore it is not to be supposed that two 1 "If any person shall trespass upon any ffruid, enclosed or unenclosed, or in or upon any river, water, or loch, with intent to take any trout or other freshwater fish, with any net, double rod, cross line, set line, or otter, or by burning tlio water, or by striking the fish with any instrument, or by pointing, or to destroy the fish by putting linie or other substance destructive to trout or other freshwater fish into the water, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five pounds for every such offence." 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 2.

prosecutions under these sections can be made out of the same species fadi. If it be possible to show they are distinct, and in that case only, then the poacher can be proceeded against under both sections.

Power to Seize Nets, c. of Poachers. A special power is given by the Trout Act to seize boats, nets, c. of poachers This statutory power to seize or confiscate the nets, c. of poachers is necessary, for at common law the party entitled to the fishings is not entitled to seize the boat and net of the trespasser." This power, therefore, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed, and the only person entitled to seize the boat, nets, c. is the proprietor of the land on which the water poached is situate, or some one having the authority of such proprietor, which authority need not be in writing. But following the construction given to the Game Acts, the implements can only be seized on the spot, and if they are being used at the time on such spot." It seems to be unnecessary to make a previous demand for the implements, or to give notice before seizing them; but no more violence is

"It sm1 1)0 lawful for any person, having the authority of the jiro-prietor of land through or past which the river or water flows, or upon which the loch is wholly or partially situate, to seize and detain any boat or net of any description, double rod, cross line, set line, or otter, or materials for burning the water, or instruments for striking the fish, or for pointing, or lime or other substance destnictive to trout or other freshwater fish, used or intended to be used in the commission of any such offence, and also any fish taken by any such offender, and to give information thereof to the Sheriff or Justice of the Peace. " 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 3.

2 Ashburton v. Mackenzie, 7 S. D. 849.

a See Paterou's Game Laws, 94.

Ibid. 95.

to be used in taking them than what is absolutely necessary. The statute 8 9 Vict. c. 26, though in many respects repealed in this Act of 23 24 Vict. c. 45, is not repealed, except where inconsistent; and it contains a clause (sect. 3) which states that "if any such trespasser shall have in his possession any net of any description whereby trout or other freshwater fish may be taken or killed, the possession thereof shall be held to be sufficient evidence of the intent of such trespassers to commit such offence." As the statute 8 9 Vict. c. 26 only applied to fishing illegally with a net, this enactment will only apply to net fishing, for the two statutes are not to be read together as one Act. The section, however, seems scarcely to confer greater weight to the evidence than would be given to it without such enactment.

It is for the Sheriff or Justice to give orders what is to be done with the boat, nets, &c.

Power to Apprehend Poachers. â The statute 23 24 Vict. c. 45, contains no section giving power to anybody to apprehend, *in manu*, poachers, though found in the act of poaching; and no power exists at common law. But the Act 8 9 Vict. c. 26, Â 4, gives such a power, and not being repealed, that statute may be made available to justify an arrest of poachers if they are net fishing but not otherwise, for the Act 8 9 Vict. c. 26, applied only to net fishing. The 8 9 Vict. c. 26, Â 4, enacts, " it shall be lawful for any person, without any warrant or other authority than this Act, *brevi maim*, to seize and detain any person who shall be found com- 1 See g 5, post.

committing any offence against this Act, and to carry such person before the Sheriff or any Justice of the Peace in the county within which the offence shall take place, or to deliver such person to a constable, who is hereby required to carry such person before such Sheriff or Justice; and the Sheriff or Justice of the Peace before whom such offender shall be brought, shall forthwith examine, and discharge or commit such offender until caution *cle judicio sisti*, be found, as the case may require." In consequence of these two Acts, 8 9 Vict. c. 26 and 23 24 Vict. c. 45, existing together, the latter not repealing the former, nor yet containing any clause stating that they shall be read as one Act, it follows that poachers who are net fishing can be apprehended by any person, without a warrant, and taken before a Justice, but poachers by double rod fishing, &c. cannot be so arrested by anybody, even by the owner of the fishery.

Justices Interested in the same Water. â It is no disqualification of the Justices that they are interested in the water, if they are not directly interested as owners or landlords.

"All Justices of the Peace shall and may act in the execution of this Act notwithstanding; that such Justices shall be the proprietors of land through or past which any river or water may flow, or iii) on which any loch may be wholly or partially situated, or shall otherwise have a right of trout or freshwater fishing in any such river, water, or loch, except in cases in which the offence has been committed on the property of such Justice, or in which such Justice is a party to the prosecution of the case, or is directly interested in the result thereof; and no such proprietor or party having right as aforesaid shall be incompetent as a witness to prove any offence committed against

this Act by reason of his being such proprietor or having such right."â 23 24 Vict, c, 45, Â 4.

Procedure against Poachers of Trout. â The mode of procedure against poachers of trout is given in the statute 23 24 Vict. c. 45, Â 5, et seq 1 Recovery of Penalties. â "And for the recovery of the penalties and forfeitures imposed by this Act, be it CTiacted, That any such penalties or forfeitures may be recovered by summary proceeding upon complaint in writing made by the Procurator Fiscal or by any party prosecuting for the same to the Sheriff or any Justice of the Peace for the county in which such offence shall be committed, or to the Sheriff or any Justice of the Peace for any county in which the offender may be found, and on such complaint such Sheriff or Justice of the Peace shall issue a warrant for bringing the party comidained against immediately before him, or shall issue an order requiring such party to appear at a time and place to be named in such order; and every such order shall be served on the party complained against by any county officer, either by delivering to such i)arty personally or by leaving with some inmate at his usual place of abode a copy of such order, and of the complaint whereon the same has proceeded; and either upon the appearance or the default to appear of the party complained against, it shall be lawful for the Sheriff or Justice to proceed to the hearing of the complaint; and upon proof of the offence, and without any written pleadings or record of evidence to convict the offender, and upon such conviction to decern, adjudge, and sentence him to pay the penalty or forfeiture incuited, and the expenses attemliug the conviction, and to grant warrant for imprisoning him until such penalty or forfeiture and expenses shall be paid; Provided always that such warrant shall specify the amount of such penalty or forfeiture and expenses, and shall also specify a period at the expu-ation of which the party shall be discharged, notwithstanding such penalty or forfeiture and expenses shall not have been paid, and which period shall in no case exceed two months; and it shall be lawful for the Sherifi' or Justice to make such orders concerning the immediate disposal of any boat, net, double rod, cross line, set line, or otter, or materials for burning the water, or instruments for striking the fish, or for pointing, or lime or other substance destructive to trout or other freshwater fish, or fish seized or forfeited under the provisions of this Act, as may be necessary."â 23 24 Vict. c. 45. Â 5.

Aiypeal. â " It shall be lawful for any person who shall think himself aggrieved by any judgment of the Sheriff or Justice of Peace pronounced in any case arising under this Act to appeal from the same to the next Circuit Court of Justiciary, or, where there are no Circuit Courts, to the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, in the manner and by and under the rules, limitations, conditions, and restrictions contained in an Act passed in the twentieth j' ear of the reign of his Majesty King George the Second, for taking away and abolishing heritable jurisdiction in Scotland, with this variation, that such person shall, in place of finding caution in the terms prescribed by the said Act, be bound to find caution to pay the jienalty or forfeiture and expenses awarded against him by the sentence appealed from in the event of the appeal being dismissed or not insisted in, together with any additional expenses that may be awarded by the Court on deciding or dismissing the appeal; and it shall not be competent to ajiyeal from or bring the judgment of any Sheriff or Justice of Peace acting in the execution of this

Act under review, by advocacy or suspension or by reduction, or in any other way than as herein provided."â Ibid. Â 6.

Application of Penalties. â "All penalties and forfeitures imposed under the authority of this Act shall, when levied, be paid, the one half thereof to the prosecutor and the other half to the inspector of the poor of the parish within which the offence shall have been committed, on behalf of such poor."â Ibid. Â 7.

Limitation of Actions. â "No prosecution or other proceeding whatever shall be brought or commenced against any person for any offence against this Act, unless the same shall be commenced within three months after such offence shall have been committed."â Ibid. Â 8.

Interpretation of Terms. â "The words 'river,' 'water,' or 'loch' occurring in this Act shall mean and include any stream, burn, mill-pool, mill-lead, milldam, sluice, pond, cut, canal, and aqueduct, and every other collection or run of water in which fronts and other freshwater fish breed, haunt, or are found or preserved; the word 'Sheriff' shall mean the Sheriff or Steward of the county in which the offence happens or case arises, and shall include the Sheriff-substitutes of such Sheriffs; the expression 'Justice of the Peace' shall mean a Justice of the Peace of the county in which the offence happens or case arises; and the expression 'county officer' shall mean and include sheriff's officer, constable, or any officer of the county police force."â Ibid. Â 9.

Act does not apply to Salmon. â Nothing herein contained shall affect any Act of Parliament, general or local, passed for the preservation of the salmon fisheries in Scotland, or in relation to the fishing of salmon or fish of the salmon kind in Scotland."â Ibid. Â 10.

Act does not apply to Angling of Trout. â Nothing herein contained shall affect or apply to the killing of trout or other freshwater fish with single rod and line which shall be regulated by the laws in existence prior to the passing of this Act."â Ibid. Â 11.

Angling generally. â The nature of the right of angling is the same in Scotland as in England; it is a right belonging to a riparian owner as an incident of his ownership, and therefore there is no such thing as a public right of angling in any private stream or river.

Angling for Salmon. â The right of angling for salmon does not, like the right of fishing salmon with nets, depend on a grant from the Crown, but it is an incident of property, and one of the riparian rights. The Crown can in general neither give nor take away the right of angling; therefore even though another person has a grant from the Crown of the salmon fishing at a particular part of the river, yet the owner of the banks

See ante, p. 110.

See ante, pp. 174, 188. This seems to be the logical result of the authorities.

may fish salmon with the rod, provided his doing so does not substantially interfere with the higher right of the Crown grantee. And though the grantee of the net fishing may angle from boats, yet he has no right to go on a stranger's lands in order to fish with the rod and line, or to authorize others to do so.

Illegal Angling for Salmon. â As a general rule, the offence of illegal angling for salmon, wherever it is made a penal offence, is riot so heavily punished as fishing with nets; and in some cases it is exempt from punishment altogether.

Angling in Annual Close Time as to Salmon. â The Commissioners of Scotch Salmon Fisheries have power to specify in their bye-laws during what part of the annual close time anglers for salmon, if otherwise entitled to fish, may do so without incurring a penalty. The penalty for angling for salmon during the annual close time is hi. and 2l. for every salmon so taken or killed.²

There is no close time, either annually or weekly, as to trout or other freshwater fish.

Weekly Close Time as to Salmon. â With regard to the weekly close time, persons may angle for salmon during the Saturday and Monday, but if they angle for salmon during the Sunday, they incur a penalty of 6l. and 2s. for every salmon caught. If the angler accidentally 1 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 6, ante, p. 195. As already stated, the proposed Ijye-laws of the Commissioners fix the close season for angling as commencing on the 16th October or 1st November. See ante, p. 195, n. 6.

2 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 11, ante, p. 196.

3 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 11.

take an unseasonable or f(nil salmon, he is, of course, not liable to the penalty, but he must not keep it in his possession. Whenever the angler is angling at an illegal time, he forfeits his rod and line;- and it may be seized by any constable or water bailiff, subject to the disposal of it by the Sheriff or Justice.

Salmon-Roe. â If the angler use, or has in his possession, salmon-roe for the purpose of fishing, he incurs a penalty of 2. besides forfeiting such salmon-roe.

Selling Salmon Angled. â Though it is intended that the angler may, when the Commissioners issue their bye-laws, angle salmon during part of the annual close season, yet it will be illegal for him to sell the fish so caught, for the Commissioners have no power to alter the law as to the sale of fish in close time.- The penalty for selling is 5s.; but the angler is not prohibited from giving the angled salmon as a present."

Title to Trout Fishing. â The right to fish trout ex adverso of one's lands, as already mentioned, is a right incidental to the property of the adjacent soil, and requires no proof of forty years' possession to support it. The only qualification is that it must be so exercised as not to injure unnecessarily the sahuon fishing, if any. Lord Glenlee observed: " The right of common fishing is accessory to lands, whether expressed in the titles or not; while, on the other hand, though a party has au express right in his titles, unless he prove that he has 1 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 11. " Ibid.

3 Ibid. Â 26. â Â Ibid. Â 12; ante, p. 196.

5 Ibid. Â 6. See a7ite, p. 197. Â Ibid. Â 11.

"See as to England, ante, p. 197.

8 Mackenzie v. Hvse, S S. D. S16, 6 W. S. 31.

excluded his neiglibour, such neighbour will also be entitled to fish. This is confirmed by the decision of Scott V. Lindsay But if there be nothing more than that the neighbour has not exercised his right, that will not prevent his doing it now, unless

he have been excluded for forty years by the parties having an explicit gi'ant of trout fishing."

As already mentioned, the tenant of a farm, where the lease is silent on the subject, has been held to have no right to fish for trout with nets, though that decision is open to question. But the Judges who decided against net fishing expressly guarded themselves against saying that the tenant might not angle for trout.

Angliying for Trout, c. 11 Though there is no such thing as a public right to fish for trout and other freshwater fish in private streams, rivers, or lochs, nor a right in the public to go along the banks for that purpose, and therefore one who angles with single rod and line on land which is not his own, and without the leave of the proprietor, is a trespasser, yet such angler, though trespassing, is, by the law of Scotland, exempt from punishment by summary conviction. The statutes 23 24 Vict. c. 45, and 8 9 Vict. c. 26, expressly except single rod fishing from penalties. The only remedy of a proprietor, therefore, against the trout angler who trespasses, is to bring an action for damages for the trespass, or if the trespasses are vexatious, to 1 M. 12771.

2 Mackenzie V. Hose, 8 S. D. 818.

3 See ante, pp. 215, 216.

4 It is otherwise in England. See ante, p. 123. 5 23 24 Vict. c. 45, s. 11.

6 apply for an interdict. But the angler can be warned off, and if he refuse, can be pushed off the land by force, with just sufficient force, and no more. The angler cannot be given into custody, nor can his rod, or his tackle, or his trout be seized and taken from him.

Angling Trout from Highway. 7 Though the public have scarcely gone the length of claiming the right to fish trout in a private stream, yet an attempt was once made to establish the right to fish wherever there was a public road which led along the banks of a private stream. A person named Shireff claimed, as one of the public, to fish trout in the Tyne, which ran through Sir Charles Ferguson's estate of Hailes, and this he did on the alleged ground, that as he had got legal access to the bank of the stream, and trout were *res nullius*, therefore he could exercise the right of fishing from such highway. The Court, however, though puzzled by the novelty of the claim, held that there was no foundation for it in point of law. Lord Moncrieff said: "The water while within the grounds is the property of the owner of the banks, subject to restrictions as to conterminous owners, and perhaps subject to grants qualifying the title. But I cannot think that to use the mere right to a road for passage only, for the purpose of killing the game fowls or the game fishes by means of it, and clearly on the mere pretence of the right of passage, is a very different thing, a plain abuse of an admitted right to a purpose which is not admitted as at all belonging to it, and which the party asserting it must prove by a very different process of reasoning, showing some ground of right altogether different from the mere power of approaching the stream where the fishes may be, or on the ground where the fowls or other game may be." This decision is in accordance with what has been held in England in reference to poaching game, where a person becomes an illegal trespasser if he use the highway for poaching purposes.

Trout Angling as regards Salmon. 8 The fishery in a river is separable into several parts, such as the salmon fishery and the trout fishery, each of which may belong, and

often does belong, to a different party. In such a case the salmon fisher has no right to complain of the trout fisher (so far as angling is concerned), nor the trout fisher of the salmon fisher for fishing at any particular point, except where one purposely acts, not in the exercise of his legal right, but in order to obstruct his neighbour in the exercise of his; or as it is technically called in Scotland, except he acts nimiously. Hence where Lord Somerville was owner of the salmon fishing in a part of the Tweed, but had lands only on one side, it was held he could not prevent the owner of the lands opposite from angling for trout on his own side, in the same part of the river, who was acting bond fide in exercise of his own right of property. So also where the proprietor of a salmon fishing let it, but reserved to himself, his heirs and successors, and to those having his authority, the right of angling with the rod, it was

Fi' Tfj son V. Shireff, 7 D. B. M. 1363.

2 Paterson's Game Laws, p. 55.

Lordovicrvilley. Smith, 22 Dec. 1859, 32 So. Jur. 112.

held this was competent, and that he might afterwards let the rod fishing for a rent to a third party The reservation to heirs and successors showed it was meant to be a licence of profit and not of pleasure.

Anglinff as hctween Opposite Oivncrs of Stream. â The rule is primd facie that each riparian owner can fish on his own side of a stream up to but not beyond the medium filuin aqua:. If he go beyond this limit, he is clearly a trespasser, whether he do so with a net or a line. It is true it was recently observed by a very high authority, Lord President Macneill that he was not aware of any law which prevented a proprietor on one side from casting his line beyond the centre of the river. But that was at most an obiter dictum, as to which the other Judges offered no opinion, and it is opposed to the opinion of the Court in Milne v. Smith To cast a line beyond the centre, and catch a fish there, when the opposite bank belongs to a different o vner, would be a trespass in the eye of the law, just as much as if the angler had gone in person and caught the fish by hand beyond the centre line. In England (and the rule must be the same in Scotland) it is settled that a person who shoots into and strikes the soil of a field with shot, though not himself corporeally entering the field, commits a civil trespass; and so where a party sends his dog into a field to fetch out a hare, though he himself does not corporeally enter the field. Such a 1 Gemmillv. Ridclcu, 16 Fuh. 1847, 9 D. B. M. 727.

2 Ibid.

3 Lord Somervue v. Smith, 22 Dec. 1859, 32 Sc. Jur. 112. 23 Xov. 1850, 13 D. B. M. 120.

trespass is a good cause of action at law, though it depends upon the language of any particular statute whether it is a penal offence; and it is not, for example, a penal offence in England, though it is a good cause of action at common law there

See Paterson's Game Laws, p. 55.

THE TWEED GENERALLYâ SPECIAL STATUTES AS TO TWEEDâ T VEED COMMISSIONERSâ WATER BAILIFFSâ JUSTICES INTERESTEDâ ANNUAL CLOSE TIMEâ WEEKLY CLOSE TIMEâ HAVING OR SELLING FISH IN CLOSE TIMEâ REMOVAL OF BOATS, NETS, ETC. IN CLOSE TIMEâ FIXED NETS, DAMS, ETC.â BEATING THE WATERâ STAKE AND BAG NETS â SIZE OF

MESHERS OF NETS â POUT-NETS ANB WEAR-SHOT NETS â LEISTERS AND SPEARSâ POISONING RIVER â PENALTY ON FISHERS NOT ENTITLEDâ FOUL OR UNSEASONABLE FISHâ CLEEKsâ TROUT FISHERS CATCHING SALMONâ DESTROYING SPAWNâ SALMON-jloE â POACHING BY NIGHT â PROCEDUREâ THE SOLWAY â LOCAL FISHERIES.

The Tweed Generally. â The Tweed during part of its course forms the Loimdaiv between England and Scotland, and the line runs through the centre of the stream. If an English proprietor go beyond the mid-stream and fish either with net or rod he commits a trespass in Scotland, and so becomes amenable to Scotch law. On one occasion an Englishman set up a right to fish with the rod beyond his centre line, and it was held that he was an intruder and a trespasser there, though he threw his line from his own side.

The Tweed is not subject to the general provisions 1 Mihiev. Smith, 23 Nov. 1850, 13 D. B. M. 120.

of the Scotch statutes, "and the reasons," says Hope, L. J. C. " for not including it were plain; for if all the lower part of the river, both as to close time stake or fixed nets, cairns, and so forth, could not be subjected to Scotch law, it would only have been restricting the use of the upper part of the river prejudicially to the Scotch proprietors, and for the benefit of the lower to have extended the Scotch statutes to the Tweed." ' "

Special Statutes as to Tweed. â The statutes which now regulate the Tweed Fisheries are the 20 21 Vict. c. cxlviii. and 22 23 Vict. c. lxx. The Acts also apply to every river, brook, or stream which flows or runs into the Tweed, and also the mouth or entrance of the said river. The limits of the mouth of the Tweed were defined by 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 4, but the Fishery Commissioners have power to extend these limits before 1st January, 1864, by a bye-law.

Tweed Commissioners and Officers. â Every proprietor of salmon fishings in the river of the annual value of 30., or which extend half a mile in length where such fishings are only on one side of the river, or a quarter of a mile in length where such fishings comprehend both sides of the river, and several others, are con- 1 Milne v. Smith, sq). p. 668. B. Roxburgh v. K Hoim, M. 14272, 2 Paton, Ap. 358. So the Solway is exempted from the Act as to cruives. Murray v, Mag. of Kircudbright, 2 Sh. Ap. C. 299.

A Special Act prohibits pock-nets, which includes stoop-nets in part of Forth. Stat. 1698. L. Erskine v. Mag. of Stirling, M. 14268; 6 Paton, Ap. 774.

2 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 2.

26 27 Vict. c. 50, Â 4. The Commissioners have, by their bye-law of 16th August, 1863, fixed the extended limits.

stituted Commissioners for the execution of the Act. They hold a general meeting once a year, on the first Monday of September, at a place to be appointed at the previous annual meeting.- Special meetings may also be held at other times on a requisition signed by three Commissioners. Various details are given as to the appointment of officers and the keeping of accounts. The Commissioners have power to rate the owners of Salmon Fisheries in the river for expenses.

Water Bailiffs. â The Commissioners may appoint water bailiffs for the protection of the fisheries and detection of offenders, and the bailiffs are not to act without

previously taking an oath. The water bailiffs have the powers of constables as regards all matters connected with the Act, in the same manner as if offences against the Act were breaches of the peace, and for the purpose of preventing offences, or of detecting and apprehending offenders, to enter upon any grounds adjoining the river, and at all times with their boats or otherwise to enter upon any fishery on the river for the purpose of preventing or detecting unlawful fishings or obstructions in the river, and to moor, anchor, or otherwise fix their boats at such places as they shall find convenient, provided that by such mooring, anchoring, or fixing their boats they do not obstruct or impede any legal mode of fishing. It shall be lawful for every superintendent or water bailiff, or other person whatsoever, without any warrant or authority other 1 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 10. " Hiul- Â 17.

s Ibid. Â 18. â Â Ibid. Â 79, SO, 81. Â Ibid. Â 36.

Â Ibid. Â 37.

than the Act, hrcvi manu, to seize and detain any person who shall be found committing any offence against the provisions of the Act, and to convey such offender, or cause him to be conveyed by any constable or other peace officer, in case the offence is committed in England, before any Justice having jurisdiction in the place where the offence is committed, or where the offender resides or is found, who shall forthwith proceed against such offender according to law, and according to the provisions in the Act contained; and in case the offence is committed in Scotland such offender shall be conveyed, by any person apprehending him, before the Sheriff or some Justice having jurisdiction in the place where the offence is committed, or where the offender resides or is found, and such Sheriff or Justice shall forthwith examine, and thereupon discharge or commit such offender until caution, de juicio sisti, be found, as the case may require. Every person who shall resist or make forcible opposition to or assault any high or petty constable, peace officer, sheriff officer, superintendent, or water bailiff, or any other person employed in the execution of the Act, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding 51.

Justices, c. Interested. â All Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates may act though interested, if not directly interested.

The Annual Close Time. â The annual close time extends from the 14th September to 15th February following exclusive, except as to rod and line with the 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 38.- Ibid. Â 39.

artificial fly, and as to rod and line it extends between 30th November and 1st February following exclusive. But the Commissioners may during the close time permit fish to be taken with the owner's consent for artificial propagation. Therefore, an angler during close time can only fish with the artificial fly between 14th September and 30th November, and between 1st February and 15 th February.

Wecbj Close Tline.â The weekly close time extends from 6 P. M. on Saturday to 6 a. m. on Monday morning, except as regards stake-nets and bag-nets, and rod and line. And as to stake and bag-nets these must not be used between the low water next in point of time before 6 P. M. on Saturday and the low water next in point of time before 6 a. m. on Monday." There being no other enactment as to weekly close time, it follows that a person, if otherwise entitled, may angle on the Sunday (except during the annual close time above mentioned) in the Tweed and its tributaries without

committing any penal offence; whereas he would commit such offence if he angled on the other salmon rivers of Scotland.

The penalty for unlawfully fishing during close time, annual or weekly, is 10. and los. per salmon caught, besides forfeiture of the boat, net, tackle, or engine used.

Having or Scumg Fish in Close Time. â The penalty for having or selling, during annual close time, fish known to have been illegally caught in close time is 1 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 6. = Iltn. l. S 7.

3 See ante, p. 1P7. â-2 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 8.

los. and 21. for each fisli. But it is no offence to ha"ve or sell fish taken with rod and line between 15th September and 30th November, and between 1st and 14th February inclusive. It may be observed that it is no offence to buy fish so illegally caught, provided the party has them not in his possession. It also appears that while on the Tweed an angler can sell his fish durinsj close time, he cannot do so in the other rivers of Scotland.""

Removal of Boats and Nets in Close Time. â On or before 17th September occupiers of fisheries must remove their boats, nets, c. except those used for angling, which may remain till 3d December. The penalty is 20. and forfeiture of the boats, c. If the boats, nets, c. are not duly removed, a superintendent or water bailiff may seize and convey them away, and he may also at any time during annual close time enter on the fishery or fishing grounds, and without warrant search for boats, tackle, c. concealed there, and if necessary break open doors to do so. So if nets, engines, or tackle are left in the river during annual or weekly close time the water bailiffs may carry them away, and the Commissioners may destroy them or return them to the owner."" It shall not be lawful for any person other than an owner or occupier of a fisheiy in the river or otherwise entitled to fish for salmon therein, or having an exclusive right of fishing for salmon in any fishery beyond the river, or having a licence under the hand of 1 22 23 Viot. c. 70, Â 10. a See ante, p. 197.

3 22 23 Vict. c. Ixx. Â 11. 4 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 48.

5 Ibid. Â 49.

the clerk, to liave in liis possession, within five miles from the river, any net or ene ine of the description of those used for taking or killing salmon, c. under a penalty of 20. and forfeiture

A search warrant may be oljtained on information on oath before a Justice or a Sheriii", and tlie water bailiff or constable may carry off all illegal implements so found.

Feriy-boats are not to be used for fishing, under a penalty of 10. and are to have the owner's name painted, under a penalty of 51. So private boats must have the owner's name painted thereon and numbered, and no boat which in the fishing season is generally and ordinarily used for fishing with nets shall be used for angling or rod-fishing; offences against this section are punishable by a penalty of 5. and seizure of the boat." All boats used for fishing with nets are to be marked, so as to distinguish them from angling-boats and ferry-boats, under a penalty of 51. and seizure of the boat.""

Fixed Nets, Dams, c. â Fixed nets and fixed engines are not to be allowed under a penalty of 20., and 10. per day, and 10s. per salmon so caught, and any two

Commissioners may remove and take away such net or engine. ' But water-wheels and machinery for manufacturing purposes are not to be affected by the Act."

Mill-dams, dykes, wears, caulds, and other permanent obstructions shall be so constructed as to pennit the 1 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 50.

2 ll. id. g 51. =Â Ibid. Â 52. â Ibid. Â 53. Â Ibid. Â 51. 6 Ibid. Â 55. 7 Ibid. Â 61.

free run of salmon in the ordinary state of the river. The Commissioners may cause the alterations to be made, and the expense thereof to be chargeable to the Commissioners if the dams, c. existed before the Act, and to the owners if made after the Act. So rocks, stones, mud, and other obstructions in the river are to be removed by the owners of the soil or fishery. All cairns used for fishing with nets are to be removed. Hecks are to be placed in mill-leads with vertical bars three and a quarter inches wide, under a penalty of hl.

Beating the Water. â Every person who beats the water or places, uses, or sets any white object or any net or other thing whatsoever, in, over, or across the river so as to prevent, or for the purpose of preventing, salmon from entering or from going up or down the river or any part thereof, or who in any other way or manner prevents or obstructs salmon from entering or going up and down the river shall, for the first offence, be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20., and the net or object or thing so placed, used, or set may be seized and is forfeited.

Stake and Bag-nets. â Stake-nets and bag-nets placed beyond the mouth of the river must be constructed and placed in conformity with the details given in the statute.Â

Size of Meshes of Wets. â No net is to be used in fishing the river of which the meshes shall be less than one and three-quarter inches from knot to knot (except 1 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 56. hm. 57.

3 Ibid. Â 58. â Iljij. Â 59.

Â Ibid. Â 60. 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 12.

lierring and shvimp-nets), under a penalty of 10., and 10s. per salmon, and forfeiture of net and salmon."

Pout-nets or Rake-liootes. â Any person using a pout-net, rake-hook, or similar instrument to kill or take salmon, or having such in his possession within five miles of the river, incurs a penalty of 21., and lo. s. per salmon, besides forfeiture; but scoop-nets used to take the fish out of stake or bag-nets are excepted."

Wear-Shot net â Every person who shall shoot or work any wear-shot net in the river within the distance of thirty yards of any other wear-shot net already shot or being worked in the river before such last-mentioned net is fully drawn and landed, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5.

Leisters and Sjyears. â Every person who takes or kills salmon in the river by means of any leister or spear, or any such engine, shall for every such offence incur a penalty of 10., and 10s. per fish, besides forfeiture. So oveiy person who has in his possession, Mathin five miles from the river, any leister, spear, or similar engine of the description, c. incurs a penalty of 2L and forfeiture."

Poisoning River. â Every person who at any time lays or places in the river, or allows to fall or run or flow into the river any hot lime or refuse of gasworks or products thereof, or prussiate of potash, or any water in which green flax has been steeped, or

any matter or thing which shall poison or kill any salmon or smolt 1 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 13. a Ibid. Â 14.

Â 20 21 Vict. c. 14S, Â 62. Ibid. Â 63.

5 Ibid. Â 64.

shall for every such first offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5l., and for every subsequent offence 10l., and 21. per day while it is continued So laying or placing cinders and rubbish subjects the party offending to a penalty of 40s.-

Penalty on Fishers when not Entitled. â Any person illegally fishing in the river for salmon during the fishing season incurs a penalty of 10l., and 10s. for each fish, besides forfeiture of boat, net, tackle, c. Every person who enters, or is found upon any ground adjacent or near to the river, or in or upon the river, with intent illegally to take or kill salmon, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5Z.4 This intent may be inferred by the Sheriff or Justice from the party having in his or any companion's possession nets or implements, and other circumstances.

Foul or Unseasonable Fish. â Whoever during the fishing season knowingly takes or kills unclean or unseasonable salmon incurs a penalty of 5l. and forfeiture. ' Foul and unseasonable fish when taken must be immediately put back into the river with as little injury as possible." But this last enactment does not apply to sea-trout, bull-trout, or whitling taken by means of the rod and line.

Cleelcs. â Every person who shall between 15th September and 1st May following, in fishing with a rod and line, use any cleek or instrument for landing fish 1 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 65. " II)ul. Â 66.

3 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 15. 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 68.

5 I, i, l. Â 69. Â Ibid. Â 70. ' Ibid. Â 72.

8 2 23 Vict. c. Ixx. Â 17.

other than a lauding net shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 5."

Trout Fishers catching Salmon. â If any person while in the act of fishing for river or fresh-water trout during the period when salmon may be lawfully taken and killed, t; des any salmon in or from the river, he shall forthwith deliver up such salmon to the owner or occupier of the fishery where the same was taken, and every person who fails or refuses to deliver up any salmon so taken shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 21. for every such salmon.-

The Trout-fishing Act, 8 9 Vict. c. 26, applies to the whole of the river Tweed, and though that Act is now mainly repealed by the Act 23 24 Vict. c. 45, it is not repealed.

Destroying Spawn. â Every person taking or destroying smolt, fry, or young brood or spawn of salmon, except by rod and line, or disturbing spawning beds, incurs a penalty of 10l., besides 2. per fish, and forfeiture of fish and tackle. Whoever wilfully kills smolt, fry, or young brood of salmon by the rod and line between 1st April and 1st June each year, or has such in his possession, incurs a like penalty.

Salmon-Roe. â The provision in the Scotch Salmon Fisheries Act prohibiting the use of salmon-roe in fishing applies to the Tweed."

Three or more Poaching hj Night. â The provision 1 22 23 Vict. c. Ixx. Â IG. 20 21 Yii t. c. 148, Â 73.

3 Ibid. Â 76. Ante., 212, 210.

' Ibiil. Â 74. Â Ibid. Â 75.

- 25 20 Vict. c. 97, Â Â 12, 34, p. 19S.

in the Scotch Salmon Fisheries Act as to three or more persons poaching salmon by night extends to the Tweed. i

Procedure. â The superintendent of water bailiffs may-prosecute for offences and penalties. Penalties may be summarily recovered before the Sheriff or a Justice or Justices having jurisdiction in the place where the offence is committed, or where the offender resides or is found.

1 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â Â 27, 34. 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 18.

3 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 82. The penalties may be levied by poinding, or distress and sale, Â 83. The offender may be kept in safe custody until return made to the warrant of poinding or distress and sale, unless. security be given; and if there is no sufficient distress, then he may be committed to prison for two months for a first offence, three months for a second offence, and four months for a third offence, Â 84. The distress is to be made by sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, Â 85. Offenders may be committed to prison without poinding or sale, 22 23 Vict. c. Ixx. Â 20. Every such penalty, when recovered, shall be paid to the Commissioners, or to their clerk or treasurer, or other person authorized to receive the same, to be applied for the same purposes as the rates, 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 87. The complaint respecting such offence must be made within six months after the commission of the offence, Â 88. Forfeited articles seized by the water bailiff or constable, may be destroyed or sold, by order of the Justice or Sheriff, Â 92. The prosecutor is not bound to negative, by evidence, any licence or consent, but it lies on the defendant to prove the same affirmatively, Â 95. There is an appeal to the next Cii'cuit Court of Jnsticiaiy against any adjudication or conviction in Scotland, Â 96; and in England the appeal is to the Quarter Sessions, Â Â 97,98.

Local Act. â The Solway is still governed by the statute 44 Geo. III. c. 45. So far, however, as regards the English side, that statute was entirely repealed by the English Salmon Fisheries Act, and hence the English side is now governed by the English Act. After 1st Januaiy, 18G5, the provisions in the English Salmon Fisheries Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, as to fixed engines shall apply to the Solway and to its tributary rivers on the Scotch side; though the offences shall be prosecuted under the Scotch Salmon Fisliery Acts.- The Scotch Salmon Fisheries Commissioners were invested with power to fix the limits of the Solway Frith.

The Solway Act, which applies to the Frith and all the Scotch rivers and streams running into it, fixed the annual close time to be from 25th September to 31st December, as to some rivers, to 1st February as to 1 24 25 Vict. c. 109, Sched.

2 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 33; 26 27 Vict. c. 50, Â 3.

The words "or any other fish whatever," following the words "salmon-grilse, sca-tront, salmon-tront, or whiting, otherwise hcr ling," in the Solway Fishery Act, 44 Geo. III. c. 45, Â 9, include ordinary trout, *Henderson v. Johiustone*, 11 Dec. 1862, 35 Sc. Jnr. 76.

So any person may prosecute under the Act. If the Procurator Fiscal prosecutes, and the complaint is dismissed, he may be lialde to pay expenses. *Walker v. Jones*, 35 Sc. Jur. 51.

The Circuit Court of Justiciary, on appeal. against a conviction, may c â iew the case on the merits, Bennet v. Jones, 35 Sc. Jur. 1.

3 25 26 Vict. c. 97, Â 6.

others, and to 10th of March as to others. No spearing; of sahnnon is allowed between 25th September and 10th March.- Whoever offends against these provisions, incurs a penalty of 51 lol or 20Z. according as it is a first, second, or third offence, besides forfeiture of the fish caught, and boats, and implements. There are also enactments as to removing boats and nets during close time, destroying the brood of fish," using lime, c. size of nets," poaching of salmon, trout, and other fish."

OTHER LOCAL FISHERIES.

Local Acts. â As regards Scotch rivers, which have been regulated by local Acts, they will still be subject to the special provisions of those Acts, for the general Act does not repeal any local Act.

1 44 Geo. III, O. 45, Â 1. â S 1 Â 1 4.

M 2. â ' Â 6, 7. â 12.- Â 15. Â 9.

Irish Fisheries Gencralbj. â The Irisli fisheries were regulated by many ancient statutes from the time of Edward IV. to George IV., which applied in some cases also to British fisheries; but these were all repealed, so far as relates to Ireland, by the General Act, 5 G Vict, c. 106, which consolidated and amended the law. Subsequent statutes have passed, which modify that statute, viz. 7 8 Vict. c. 108, 8 9 Vict. c. 108, 9 10 Vict, c. lu, 11 12 Vict. c. 92, 13 U Vict. c. 88, and finally the Irish Salmon Fisheries Act, 26 27 Vict. c. 114. These statutes deal with fisheries in the sea as well as in rivers. The enactments are very voluminous and confused, being piled upon each other without method. Nevertheless, they are all to be read together as one Act. An attempt is here made to arrange the subject-matter, and give all the leading enactments now in existence which have not been repealed. It may be observed that the Larceny Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, which governs the law of poaching in England, extends to Ireland, and, of course, repeals those sections of the Irish Acts which dealt with that branch of the subject.

Common Law as to Fisheries. â The common law as to the right of fishing in the sea, and navigable rivers and waters in Ireland, is entirely the same as that of England, and need not be here repeated. The law is the same as to the legality of wears at common law and under old statutes; and, indeed, several of the cases already referred to as to wears are Irish cases. It is only so far as the modern statutes governing the Irish fisheries vary that law that it differs from the law of England, which has now a modern statute of its own which does not extend to Ireland. It will, therefore, be borne in mind, in what follows, that the common law of Ireland is the same as that of England, and still remains so, except where the following enactments qualify that law.

Fishery Commissioners. â The statute 5 6 Vict, c. loG, which repealed all the previous Acts, constituted the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, for the time being, commissioners for the execution of that Act. They were empowered to appoint inspectors of fisheries, at salaries. The Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury were empowered by 8 9 Vict. c. 108, to appoint and pay by sahary one person to be a Commissioner of Fisheries to be associated with tlie Commissioners of Public Works.2 By the 11 12 Vict. c. 92, the two existing inspectors of Irish fislieries were

made inspecting commissioners, to act along with the Commissioners of Public Works in the execution of the Fishery Acts; and in future the appointment of the inspecting commissioners was vested in the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury. That Act also empowered the Commissioners to divide Ireland into fishery districts. The recent Irish Salmon Fisheries Act, 26 27 Vict. c. 114, has transferred nearly all the powers of the former Irish Fisheries Commissioners to the Special Fishery Commissioners appointed under that Act.

Fishery Districts. By the Act 11 12 Vict. c. 92, the Commissioners were authorized to divide Ireland and the coasts and islands into fishery districts, and to subdivide each district into two or more electoral divisions, and so that conservators, who must reside or possess real property in the division, should be returned for each division. The conservators act gratuitously, and are to hold meetings, appoint clerks, inspectors, and water bailiffs. The owners of several fisheries of the 1 56 Vict. c. 106, s. 2, 3 13 14 Vict. c. 88, s. 5; 26 27 Vict. c. 114, s. 29. s. 13 14 Vict. c. 88, s. 5, 11.

value of 100l. and upwards are ex officio conservators The Commissioners may alter the districts from time to time, giving due notice thereof. All productive fisheries (whether several or not) are rated to the poor, and also pay licence duty. The party may appeal from the decision of the board of conservators to the assistant-barrister for the district, or to the then judges of assize. The election of conservators is to be triennial. Persons who have paid licence duties within any electoral district shall be entitled to vote for conservators either in person or by proxy, according to value, viz. for duty under 2l. one vote; between 2l. and 5l. two votes; between 5l. and 10l. three votes; above 10l. four votes.

Magistrates paying licence duty, and being owners of land abutting on rivers or lakes in any district, may act and vote as ex officio conservators. Three conservators are a quorum at a district meeting; matters are determined by the majority of persons assembled; the chairman, besides his original vote, has also a casting vote." The constabulary have the powers of water bailiffs in enforcing the Fishery Acts as to close time, and destruction of spawn or unseasonable fish, c.

1 11 12 Vict. c. 92, s. 6.

2 13 14 Vict. c. 88, s. 6. " The fishery districts formed are twenty-two, viz. Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Lismore, Cork, Skibbereen, Ballytrillick, Kenmare, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Ballynakill, Bangor, Ballinacorney, Sligo, Ballyshannon, Letterkenny, Londonderry, Coleraine, Ballycastle, Drogheda, "The first of Irish Fishery Commissioners for 1862.

3 13 14 Vict. c. 88, s. 7; 11 12 Vict. c. 92, s. 2-3. 3 14 Vict. c. 88, s. 9. ibid. s. 13.

s. 26 27 Vict. c. 114, s. 27. 7 12 Vict. c. 92, s. 17.

8 7 8 Vict. c. 108, s. 2.

Special Fishery Commissioners. The statute 26 27 Vict. c. 114, gives power to her Majesty to appoint three Commissioners, to be styled Special Commissioners for Irish Fisheries, who are to have a seal. They are disqualified from sitting in Parliament. " Their powers are to continue for two years only." They are paid by salaries. Any one of them may do ordinary acts; but at least two must concur in ordering the removal of an illegal net or wear, though all must hear the cases as to these. They may compel the

attendance of witnesses, and examine on oath. Witnesses are punishable for perjury. Proceedings are not to abate by the death or discharge of a Commissioner. On the determination of their office their powers and duties are to devolve on two permanent inspectors of fisheries, to be appointed by the Lord Lieutenant.

All the powers of the former, or Fishery Commissioners, are transferred to these Special Fishery Commissioners, except as to the white sea-fish and oysters. They have power also to define the mouths of estuaries and rivers.

Though the Special Fishery Commissioners are not subject to be ordered or controlled by courts of law and equity in the ordinary way,- yet, where any person feels aggrieved with any of their decisions, he may appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench in Ireland within seven days after the decision, in like manner as in appeals from Justices at petty sessions.

1 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â Â 32, 33. Â 36. ' Â 35. " Â 38.

Byc-laiivs of Commissioners. â In consequence of the exclusive powers given to the Commissioners to alter the close time and other details of the Irish fisheries, it is necessary, in order to ascertain the entire existing law affecting any particular county, to obtain a copy of the most recent bye-laws, wdiich are, or may be, varied from time to time. By the statute a copy of all bye-laws, rules, orders, and regulations made by the Commissioners must be sent to each clerk of the peace, and notice thereof posted up at the usual j)lace for posting notices in the petty session district, and a printed copy for each district may be bought for one shilling.²

Meaning of Terms. â In the Irish Fishery Acts the words " estuary " and " bay " include harbours or roadsteads; " rivers " includes tributaries of rivers, and all other streams and watercourses; " vessels " includes ships, boats, cots, cobs, or curraghs; " fish " include oysters and oyster-brood; " salmon " includes grilse, peall, sea-trout, samlets, par, and all other fish of the salmon kind, and the spawn and fry thereof; " trout " includes pollar or fresh-water herring, and all fish of the trout kind, and spawn or fry thereof; " net " includes all descriptions of tackle, trawl, trammel, stake, bag, coghill, eel, haul, draft, and seine nets, and all other engines or devices used for like purposes; " fixed net " or " fixed engine " includes wears, stake, bag, stop, and still nets, and all other engines or devices used for like purposes."

' r, 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 92. 2 Ibid. Â 93.

3 l; j 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 1.

Funds of the District Board. â All sums received for licence duties and rates, and from the sale of forfeited engines or nets, or instruments, and from penalties, are paid to the credit of the Fishery Commissioners, and applied in respect of each district; and the treasurer, when one is appointed, keeps and jiays the same over to the board of conservators, for the purposes of the district. The treasurer of the district is to keep and pay over the duties and rates to the conservators of the year for which these were payable.

Use of Shore by Herrmrj Fishermen. â There is no close season in the Irish sea fisheries, except as to oysters. At common law there is no right in sea fishermen to make use of the sea-shore, which belongs to individuals. But in Ireland a power has been given by statute in certain cases.

"It shall be lawful for all fishermen and persons employed by them to enter upon all such beaches, strands, and wastes on or adjoining the sea-shore, or any estuary, as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying on any herring or other sea fishing, and also to draw up and spread their nets and land their fish upon any such beach, strand, or waste: provided nevertheless, that they shall not erect any fixtures or fixed nets thereon, save as hereinafter provided.

"And it shall be lawful for all watchmen, directors, and guiders of fishermen, and all such fishermen themselves, and such other persons as shall necessarily attend the nets or fishings at the times of fishing for herrings, n 1-2 Vict. c. 92, Â 27. "â r k Q Viot. c. 106, Â 3.

3 See ante, p. 28. 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 8.

pilchards, and other sea fish, to enter and go into and upon any lands which do lie or adjoin near unto any-fishing place, fit, convenient, and necessary to watch and to draw or carry the fish on shore, and there to watch for the said fish, and to direct and guide the said fishermen which shall be upon the sea and sea-coasts for the taking of the said fish; provided that no person shall be empowered or authorized by this Act to enter in or upon any enclosed garden, or any tillage land with a growing crop thereon.

"If any person shall resist or forcibly obstruct any fisherman or person employed by him in entering upon and using in the manner and for the purposes aforesaid the said beaches, strands, wastes, and other lands, save gardens and lands with a growing crop as aforesaid, every person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 51." 2

Fishing Vessels Registered. â All fishing vessels on the coast of Ireland shall be marked and registered at the coast-guard station or custom-house office adjacent, under a penalty of 10.

Every boat, cot, or curragh, shall have the name of the owner, or of one of the owners, painted on a conspicuous place thereof, under a penalty not exceeding 2.

Sea Nets. â The restrictions on sea nets were contained in the statute 5 G Vict. c. 106.

"And be it enacted, that no net or other engine covered with canvas, hide, or other material, by which unsizeable and young fish may be taken or destroyed, 1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 4. Ibid. Â 5.

3 Ind. Â IG. Ibid. Â 81.

shall be used on the sea-coast, or within any estuary, except for the purpose of dredging for sliell fish, and every person offending by such use of any such net or engine shall forfeit the same, and shall also for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 10."

And no person shall, at any time between sunrise and sunset, set either in the sea, or within the tideway, in any estuary, any sea-net for catching herrings, or any trammel-net, unless specially authorized by a bye-law of the Commissioners, or leave any drag or other net in the water between sunrise and sunset, except seines or drift-nets for pilchards, or fish other than herring; but all persons may use seine-nets for the catching of herrings, save in such places as may be forbidden by any bye-law of the Commissioners.

"Every person who shall, between sunset and sunrise, have set, either in the sea or within the tideway in any estuary, any such net as is hereby prohibited from being left set or in the water between sunrise and sunset, shall before sunrise haul up and remove such net or nets; and every person offending by not so hauling up and removing such net before sunrise, shall forfeit the net so set or in the water, and shall also forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding ol., unless it shall be proved to the Justice before whom complaint shall be made against such person, that he was prevented by sudden storm or stress of weather from hauling up and removing such net. 3 1 5 6 Vict. c. 100, Â Ck 7 8 Vict. c. 108, Â 7; 8 9 Vict c. 108, Â 15.

3 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 8.

"Every person who shall use any trawl or trammel-net at any season or any place, either in the sea or within the tideway in any estuary, when or where the use of the same shall have been prohibited by any bye-law to be made as hereinafter mentioned, shall forfeit every such net so used, and shall for every such offence also forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 20

"And whereas shoals of herrings and other fish are frequently prevented from entering bays and estuaries by persons setting nets at or across the entrance of such bays and estuaries: be it therefore enacted, that if any person shall set any net at or across the entrance of any bay or estuary in any place or at any time which shall be prohibited by any such bye-law, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay for each such offence any sum not exceeding 5."

Sea Fish near Wears. â "Whereas soles, turbot, sprats, Jiake, and other white sea fish are now caught by means of wears in the tide-ways of certain rivers during the close salmon season, and it is expedient that such fisheries should, under certain restrictions, be permitted: be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for all persons now legally entitled by charter or prescriptive right to the use of such wears to continue to use them for the purpose of catching white fish, notwithstanding its being the close salmon season, provided they obtain the 1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 9. Trawling has been prohibited by bye-law of the Commissioners in several places, as Dublin Bay, East Coast, Dumlrurn IJay, Belfast Lough, Lough Swilly, Donegal Bay, Galway Bay, Brandon Bay, Bantry Bay, Glandore Harbour, Waterford Harbour, Wexford Coast. Trammel nets have been prohibited in Dnnngarvon Bay and Inver Bay.â Report of Irish Fisliery Commissioners for 1862, 2 5 6 Vict. c. loG, Â 10.

licence of the Commissioners aj(pointed under tliis Act to do so; and it shall be lawful to the said Commissioners to issue their licence accordingly, for such period as they may think proper; provided, however, that all such wears shall be subject in all other respects to the provisions of tliis Act, and to such bye-laws and regulations as may be made in regard to them by the said Commissioners, pursuant to the powers reserved to them in this Act.

Oysters. â The right to oyster beds in Ireland is the same at common law as in England; they go with the soil, and whoever is the owner of the soil is entitled to keep oysters there.

Stealing Oysters. â The property in oysters and oyster beds is protected by the same statute as in England, viz. the Larceny Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 25." Nothing

in the Acts protects oyster beds lying below the level of the lowest spring tides, unless these are held by charter, grant, patent, statute, or prescription.

Power to make Oyster Beds. â Power was given to owners or occupiers of lands adjoining the sea or any estuary, with the consent of the Fishery Commissioners, to form oyster beds, and appropriate part of the shore for that purpose, but so as not otherwise to abridge the right of the public in other respects. The enactment was as follows:â

"It shall and may be lawful for the owner or occupier of any land bordering on the sea or any estuary, with the permission in writing of the said Commissioners, or
J 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 39. â Anu, p. 90.

8 9 Vict. c. 108, Â 16.

for any person or persons, with the consent of such owner or occupier, and with the permission in writing of the said Commissioners, to form or plant any oyster bed or laying on the shore adjacent to such lands, and either above or below the level of the lowest watermarks of spring tides, as the said Commissioners shall think fit; and it shall be lawful for the several persons forming or planting any such oyster bed or laying to hold the same as private property, and to exercise an exclusive control over the same, and such oyster beds shall be entitled to the like protection as by the said recited Acts is provided in case of any other oyster beds or layings being the exclusive property of any person: provided always, that the forming and planting of such oyster beds as aforesaid shall not give any exclusive right or title to the occupancy of the said shore, except for the purpose aforesaid, or to the appropriation of any public banks or beds at present resorted to for oysters, but that the rights hereinbefore granted and conferred are to be considered as exclusively applying to places where no such public oyster beds at present exist; saving to the Queen's most excellent Majesty and all the subjects of this realm the free and full exercise and enjoyment of all other rights of fishing or other rights whatsoever in or along the said shore, subject to the provisions herein contained."

Under this power twenty-five licences were granted up to March, 1863, and nine more were under con-sideration.² 1 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 41.

See " Report of Irish Fisheries for 1862."

Close Season for Oysters. â The close season for oysters is from 1st May to 1st September exclusive. Power, however, is given to the Commissioners to alter this period on inquiry. The Commissioners may also, on the application of any person interested in any oyster fishery in a particular locality, call a meeting of those interested in snch fishery, and after hearing and receiving evidence, may appoint a period not exceeding the term of three years, within which it shall not be lawful to dredge for, take, catch, or destroy any oysters, or oyster brood in such locality; such decision to be duly published. Power is also reserved to persons to dredge for and take oysters during close season from natural public beds below the level of lowest spring tides, during such part of the close season as the Commissioners may appoint But persons who take or possess oysters for any other purpose, shall forfeit all the oysters, and incur the same penalty as is incurred for taking them in close season. If any person dredge for, take, catch or destroy, have in his possession, sell, or buy any oysters or oyster brood within the close season, he shall forfeit such oysters, and a sum not exceeding 51 for

each offence, provided that nothing shall prevent the proprietor of any oyster bed, or any person deriving under him, from removing or laying down oyster brood during close season." The minimum penalty is 10s.

The penalties for stealing oysters are cumulative 15 6 Vict. c. 106, § 32. = Ibid. § 33.

37 8 Vict. c. 108, § 5, 6; 5 C Vict. c. 106, § 33, 3-1. § 8 9 Vict. c. 108, § 19. ' 5 6 Vict. c. 106, § 36.

6 11 12 Vict. c. 92, § 42. " See ante, p. 90.

The Commissioners have exercised their powers of making bye-laws as to the oyster fishery on the coasts of Wicklow and "Wexford, Cork Harbour, Tralee Bay, Achill Sound, Clew Bay, Blacksod Bay, and Canning-ford Lough.

Improvement of Oyster Beds. § The Fishery Commissioners may make bye-laws, rules and regulations to prevent the destruction and removal of small oysters and to regulate the mode of dredging. Owners or tenants of oyster beds may also appoint water bailiffs to watch the oyster beds and enforce the Acts, and such bailiffs shall have the same powers as those appointed by the Commissioners.

Bait Beds. § A similar power is given to owners of land adjoining the sea or estuaries, with the consent of the Commissioners, to form bait beds for the purpose of increasing the means of procuring bait for the line fisheries, and these bait beds are protected like oyster beds.

Licence Duty on Engines, c. § All engines, nets, instruments or devices whatsoever used for the taking of salmon, trout, pollen i. e. freshwater herring, a species of trout as defined by 13 14 Vict. c. 88, § 1), or fish of the salmon and trout kind, or for the taking of eels, and all fixed salmon, trout, or eel fisheries within any district, or on or off the sea-coast thereof, shall, except as hereinafter provided, before the same be used in the said year or subsequent year, be duly licensed and rated 1 See the " Report of Irish Fishery Commissioners for 1862," p. 29.

8 9 Vict. c. 108, § 20. Ibid. § 21.

5 6 Vict. c. 106, § 13.

in the manner hereinafter prescribed upon payment of the licence duty or rate hereinafter provided. The Commissioners have no power to exceed the following scale, but may reduce it in certain districts, except those relating to fixed engines.

Scale of Licence Duties for each engine, net, instrument, or device used in salmon, trout, pollen, or eel fisheries in districts.

1. Single salmon rods 100 2. Cross lines and rods 200 3. Snap-nets 1 10 0 4. Draft-nets or seines 300 5. Drift-nets 300 6. Trammel-nets, or draft-nets for pollen 1 10 0 7. Pole-nets 200

Licence Duties such as shall be fixed by Commission- Other nets, or similar engines not named by Commissioners or Conservators as provided by the Act 11 12 Vict. c. 92. 9. Bag-nets 10 0 0 10. Fly-nets 30 0 0 11. Stake-nets, or stake-wears (Scotch) 30 0 0 12. Head-wear 600 13. For every box, crib, cruive, or dunnage-net in any wear for taking salmon or trout 10 0 0 14. For every gap, eye, or basket in any wear for taking eels 10 0

To be rated at ten per cent. Note. § Fixed fisheries for salmon or eels claimed to be "several fisheries," whether fished by means of fixed wears with boxes.

cent, on Poor Law Valuation, unless such per-centage be reduced llsUeu Uy lueillls
 Ul ll. VUU IV Cai.-? HIUH uuac.; jn i-v. mi, ivj v uv i. m. vvvÂ cruives, or rails for
 stopping the fish, or by (by the Commissioners means of the lish being stopped by
 rocks or other natural or artificial obstructions, and taken by means of drait or other
 nets.

or by the Conservators, as provided by the Act, 11 12 Vict, c. 92.

1 11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 8.

Ml 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 10, 13; 20 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 26.

Engines Injuriotis to Fish. â The Commissioners may by their bye-laws prohibit
 the use at any time or season of any engine or device for the capture of fish which
 upon inquiry they may deem to be injurious to the fisheries. 1

Licensing Engines not Enumerated in the Statute. â " For any engine, instrument,
 net, wear, or device whatsoever not enumerated in the above schedule, and which may
 be proposed to be used for fishing for salmon, trout, pollen or fish of the salmon or
 trout kind, or for eels, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners at any time before
 a board of conservators shall be formed, and after the formation of such board it shall
 be lawful for. such board of conservators for the district, as the case may be, to fix
 and determine the licence duty on payment of which the same may be used in such
 district, regard being had, as far as practicable, to the relative capability of capture and
 productiveness of the same, as compared with those set forth in the said schedule, and
 the relative proportion of the duties therein set forth; provided always, that the party
 proposing to use any such engine, instrument, net, wear, or device not enumerated in
 such 1 The duties actually charged for engines hitherto were considerably below those
 fixed by the statute, and vary in different fisheiy districts, the duty on salmon rods
 being usually ten shillings. The number of licences sold, and the duty obtained for
 engines in 1862, were as follow:â Salmon-rods, 1771, 907.; cross-lines, 256, 320Z.;
 snap-nets, 248, 267.; draft-nets, 462, 9171.; drift-nets, 36, 72.; trammel-nets, 128,
 65.; pole-nets, 34, 48.; bag-nets, 252, 1016.; fly-nets, 17, 59.; stake-nets, 90, 877.;
 head-wears, 50, 93.; boxes, cribs, c. 71, 276.; gap. s, eyes, c. 250, 222.; sweepers, 1,
 3.; cog-hills, 57, 41.; loop-nets, 1, 1.

89 Vict. c. 108, Â 14.

schedule, shall previously give notice to some constabulary or coast-guard officer
 of the district, or to some inspector appointed under this Act, of his intention to use the
 same, who shall and is hereby required to forward to tlie said Commissioners, or the
 said conservators, as the case may be, a description thereof, as to its relative capability
 of capture as compared with the engines, instruments, nets, wears, or devices set forth
 in the said schedule, and shall furnish the name by whicli it shall be designated, upon
 which the Commissioners or the said conservators, as the case may be, may authorize
 the use of the same, upon payment of the licence duty which they may fix, and cause
 the same to be inserted in the schedule of licences for the said district:

"Provided always, that rods used singly for taking trout, perch, pike, or other
 fish, save and except salmon, shall not be subject to any licence duty under this Act:
 provided also, that if any person using a rod shall, under pretence or otherwise of
 fishing for trout, perch, pike, or other fish, take or kill salmon with such rod, such
 person shall be subject to a penalty of tlie like amount as the licence duty for the time

being payable for a salmon rod, and the same shall be recoverable before a Justice or Justices in like manner as other penalties under the said recited Acts or this Act.

"Provided also, that all cross-lines used with a rod or rods for taking fish of any kind whatsoever shall be subject to the licence duty payable under this Act for the time being upon cross-lines and rods, until the same shall be altered as herein provided. " 11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 21.

Licences for Engines, hmu obtained, c. â All licences are printed in the form prescribed by the Commissioners, and stamped with the seal of the district board, and are good only for the year in which they are issued. To alter or fraudulently counterfeit the same subjects the party to a penalty of double the amount of duty. Any person using an engine, net, instrument, or device, or having the same erected or in fishing order, or found with the same in his possession in or near any fishing place, or going to, or returning from fishing, shall produce to any of the Commissioners, or any of their officers, or any conservator of the district, or any inspector, water bailiff, or officers or men of the navy, coast-guard, or constabulary, when demanded, the licence for the same; sellers or manufacturers of the nets, c. being exempted. No persons, except those named, are entitled to have the licence produced to them. The licences are sold by licensed stamp distributors, or persons appointed by the board. But if any person shall have paid licence duty for a rod in any district, he requires no licence for a rod in any other district. Tiicences are to be sold to all persons demanding, without any question or objection.

Fishing without Licence. â Any person using or erecting any engine, net, instrument, or device whatsoever, without being duly licensed under 11 12 Vict. c. 92 and 13 14 Vic. c. 88, shall be liable to pay such penalty, not less than double, nor more than treble the licence duty whi'jh the engine, net, instrument, or device he 11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 28. " Ibid. 3 Ibid. Â 29.

Ibid. Â 30. 3 i5i Â oq 6 ii ij Â shall have been so using ov erecting would for the time being be subject to, in addition to the forfeiture of the engine so used.

Fisheries to he Subject to Annual Rate. â All sabnon, trout, or eel fisheries rated to the poor, shall, in each year, pay as an annual rate, in two half-yearly gales, on 1st February and Lit Jiily each year, such sum, in addition to the licence duty to be paid for engines, instruments, c. as shall be equal to the amount of the difference between the ouns paid by such respective persons for such licence duties, and the annual sum of ten per cent, upon the poor law valuation of such fishery, subject to alteration by the district board.-

Natural Obstructions in Rivers. â If in any river reefs, or ledges of rocks, shoals, or other natural obstructions prevent or impede the free yassage and migration of salmon, trout, and other fish, antl hinder the approach and access of the same to the upper parts of the said rivers, or any lakes communicating therewith, and depositing their spawn therein, the Commissioners, on the application of a person interested in the fisheries in the river, may alter the bed so as to secure the free passage of salmon, trout, eels, and other fish, compensation being made to persons injured, and provided no injury is done to mills or drainage.

Fishing Wears. â In Ireland, as in England, wears are legal, if their origin can be traced up to the statute of 25 Edw. III. The Special Fishery Commissioners 1 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 12.

11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 23; 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 7.

=â 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 62. â â Sec ante, p. 37.

have power given them by the Irish Salmon Fisheries Act, 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 7, to inquire into the. legality of all fishing wears, and remove all which are not legal, except that if the illegality consist in not having a free gap, and the owner undertake to make such gap, the wear shall not be prostrated. If the fishing wear is unlawful, the owner is bound, after a notice, to prostrate the same in thirty days, otherwise he will forfeit 50., of which half shall go to the informer and half to the district conservators. Before, however, abating a fishing wear as illegal, the Commissioners are to hear interested parties, as in the case of fixed engines.

Similar powers as to abatement were given by the the statute 13 14 Vict. c. 88. Any person who complains of any wear, fixed net, or engine, may make his complaint, in writing, to the Commissioners, with particulars, as required by 9 10 Vict. c. 114, and they may summon the parties before them, and after hearing evidence, may make an order or decision, in writing, under their hands and seals, declaring that such wear, fixed net, or engine, or any part thereof, is a nuisance, and shall be abated and removed; and the Commissioners shall authorize some person to abate and remove the same, at the expense of the party summoned, who erected or used the same. The party may appeal to â 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 8. 2 *ibid.* Â 13.

Where legal fishing wears have been maliciously injured, the person injured may apply, under 6 7 Wm. IV. c. 116, to Presentment Sessions for compensation, and the Grand Jury may order compensation to be levied on the county, barony, parish, district, townland, or subdenomination thereof, as the Grand Jury shall direct. 8 9 Vict. 108, Â 7, 8.

4 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 14.

the Judges of Assize, or to the Court of Queen's Bench by special case No person other tlian tlie persons entitled shall place, erect, maintain, or use any wear, lixed net, or other contrivance for placing or erecting nets, or taking of fish on any parts of the coasts of Ireland, or on tlic bank or shore of any river or estuary wherein the tide ebbs and flows, or in the sea or tideway adjoining such coast, bank, or shore, under a penalty of from II. to 101, and 10s. for every fish so taken and destroyed, and forfeiture of the wear, c. To re-erect a wear, c. after conviction, causes a forfeiture of the materials and of 10., and of 21. per day.

Fixed Nets. â All new fixed nets, i. e. nets not legally existing in 1862, are illegal, and any person may destroy them. Tlie net and fish are forfeited, and a penalty of U. to 20. per day is incurred. The Special Fishery Commissioners have power to inquire into and remove all fixed nets injurious to navigation, and all other fixed nets illegal on other grounds.

If a fixed net (other than a prohibited bag-net) had been in use in July, 1863, having been erected under the Act 5 6 Vict. c. 106, is not injurious to navigation, not a common nuisance, and not illegal at common law or under any statute, the

Commissioners shall give a certificate of the situation of such net, and it will be Icaal'
A fixed net includes a head-wear.

1 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 15; 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 14.

2 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 16. Ilml. Â 17. Mouuon V. Wilby, 32 L. J. M. C. 164.

5 26 27 Vict. O. 114, Â 4. Â Ibid. Â 5.

7 Ibid. Â 6. Â Ibid. Â 44.

Stake-wears, stake-nets, and other fixed nets in the sea or tidal ways, must have clear openings in the pouches and traps, as provided by the Acts. All who use, when not entitled to use, stake-wears, stake-nets, bag-nets, and other fixed nets in the sea and tideways, forfeit 10. besides the wear, and are liable to be ordered to remove it.

Rigid to Stake and Fixed Nets. â By the Act of 1842, any person legally entitled to any several fishery on the sea-coast might lawfully fix or erect, subject to such regulations as the Commissioners might impose, any stake-wear, stake-net, bag-net, or other fixed net for the taking of salmon, provided that no right to the shore was, except for the purpose of attaching the nets, thereby conferred; and certain nets then existing were legalized. So owners in fee and tenants for a term, not less than one hundred years, of lands adjoining the sea-coast, were empowered to erect stake-nets and fixed nets to the shore adjoining the lands, provided no several fishery belonging to another person existed there. But no stake-wear, head-wear, stake-net, bag-net, fixed net, or any contrivance for a net, should be lawful which obstructed the navigation, otherwise the Commissioners, after inquiry, might cause it to be abated.

Bag-Nets. â All bag-nets, after July, 1863, placed in rivers or estuaries, or within three miles from the mouth of any river, were declared illegal, and the net and fish 1 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 43. 2 8 9 Vict. c. 108, Â 5.

3 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â Â 18,22,24. Ibid. Â 19.

' Ibid. Â 21. A penalty was imposed on others than the owners of a several fishery thus fishing within one mile of the mouth of a river, Â 22.

caught are liable to be forfeited, and the owner fined 5. to 20. per day. But bag-nets legally existing within three miles of the mouth of a river, in the whole of which the owner has the exclusive right of catcliin2 salmon, are exempted.

Boxes and Cnbs. â In fishing wears and fishing mill-dams, the boxes and cribs used shall be of a certain situation and form prescribed by statute, under certain penalties.3 Every obstruction to the free passage of fish through each and every cruive, crib, or box, shall be removed within thirty-six hours after close time has commenced, under a penalty of forfeiture and 50. and 51. per day, and a Justice may order the removal and sale thereof."

Free GajjS. â Every fishing wear must have a free gap, or opening, according to the statutory form, and no compensation is to be given for any loss thus caused; and the owner is boimd to make and maintain such free gaps, free from anything to scare the fish from entering, under heavy penalties Where a river is not more than forty feet broad, and a legal fishing wear exists, the Commissioners may, instead of requiring a free gap, order the weekly close time to be extended twenty-four hours.

The waste-sluices, waste-gates, or overfalls of the wears of any mill or factory, deriving their supply from 1 26 27 Vict. c. lit, Â 3. Tlio Commissioners had powers given to them by 5 6 Vict. c. 109, to define the mouths of rivers, and they did so. See

Rep. Irish FM. Com. or 1862. They have further powers under 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 17.

"Ibid. 3 Ibid. Â 10. â Â 5 6 Vict. c. 146, Â 37.

= 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 9. Â Ibid. im Â o. Â n jj g â rivers frequented by salmon, shall, at all seasons of the year when such mills or factories shall not be used for milling purposes, be kept open, if no passage for fish be provided; and when such passage for fish shall be provided, the sluices, and waste-sluices, waste-gates, or overfalls shall be kept down or shut, to force the water through the passage for fish.-

Otters, S; pears, Gaffs. â In any freshwater river or lake it shall not be lawful, at any season of the year, to use, for the purpose of taking fish, any otter, lyster spear, strokehaul, dree-draw, or gaff, except when a gaff is used as auxiliary to angling, or where it is used by the owner or occupier to remove fish out of a legal wear or box. The penalty is 4s. to 10s. besides forfeiture of the implement: eel-spears are excepted.

Cross-Lines. â It shall not be lawful for any person (save the proprietor of a several fishery, or any person duly authorized by him, in writing, within the limits thereof) to take, catch, or fish for any salmon or trout by means of cross-lines in any river, and any person so offending shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding 5s.

Taking Fish in Mill-Dams, Watercourses, c. â If any person shall, at any season of the year, in any mill-pool or mill-dam, or in any works appurtenant to any mill or factory, or in any watercourses leading the water to or from such mill or factory, place, lay, set, or draw any net, grate, creel, or other engine, or use any means or device whatsoever (save and except rod and line, used subject to the provisions of this Act,) for the purpose of 1 5 6 Vict. c. 106; 13 14 Vict. c. 85, Â 39.

Â 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 40. = 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 70.

taking, destroying, or obstructing any salmon or other fish, or the fry thereof, the person offending shall forfeit 10s. and such nets or other engines; and the owner or occupier of the mill or factory will be taken prima facie to have incurred the penalty, unless it appear he was ignorant of the acts done. In watercourses, cuts, channels, or sluices connected with salmon rivers, the occupier of such watercourse, c. shall put at the point of divergence a grating or lattice, not exceeding two inches in the space; and during the months of March, April, and May, and such other periods of the year as the brood or fry of salmon or trout shall be descending the river, there shall be placed or stretched over the entire surface of such grating a wire lattice or network, of such dimensions as effectually to prevent the admission of the fry, under a penalty of 10s.

Nets during Night in Rivers. â No net, except a landino'-net, shall be used in freshwater rivers to catch salmon or trout between eight p. m. and six a. m. of the following day, except in a several fishery next above the tidal How.

Fishing by Night â Disturbing Spawning Fish. â If any person shall, between sunset and sunrise, have or use any light or fire of any kind, or any spear, gaff, strokehaul, or other such instrument, with intent to take salmon or other fish, in or on the banks of any lake or river, or if any person shall be found at any time chasing, injuring, or disturbing spawning fish, or fish in the spawning beds, or attempting to catch fish in such 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 75. s Ibid. Â 76.

s 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 24.

places (except with rod and flies only within the lawful period), or damming, or teeming, or emptying any river or mill-race, for the purpose of taking or destroying any salmon or trout, or the fry thereof; every person so offending shall forfeit all such instruments and a sum of 10.1

Nets, c. near Mill-Dams. â No person, though possessed of a several fishery for twenty years next before 13 14 Vict. c. 88, is entitled to use a box, crib, cruive, net, instrument, or device for taking fish (except rods and lines only) within fifty yards of a mill-dam, unless such mill-dam has a regular fish-pass attached.

Nets at Mouths of Rivers. â No person, except the owner of a several fishery, shall shoot, draw, or use any net for taking salmon at the mouth of any river which, is less than a quarter of a mile wide, nor within half a mile, seawards or inwards, from such mouth of the river; nor shall any but the owner of a several fishery in the whole of a river and its tributaries, shoot, draw, stretch, or use nets at the mouth or other part of a river, if prohibited as being injurious to the free passage of fish by any bye-law.

Nets in Inland Rivers. â In the inland and freshwater portions of rivers and lakes, no person, save the owner of a several fishery within the limits thereof, shall, at any period of the year, lay, draw, make use of or fish v.-ith haul, draft, seine, or other net, for the taking of salmon or trout, unless in cases where a general public right of fishing for salmon with such nets, in the 1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 78. 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 16.

' 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 44; 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 27.

nature of a common fÂ f piscary, has been enjoyed for a space of twenty years next before 1842, under a penalty of forfeiting such nets and a sum not exceeding lo. i

Meshes of Nets for Salmon and Trout and Freshwater Fish. â N'o net for the taking of salmon or trout in the sea, estuaries, or tideways, or for the taking of any fish in the inland and freshwater portions of rivers and lakes, shall be used with a mesh of less size than one and three-quarter inches from knot to knot, to be measured along the side of the square, or seven inches, to be measured all round each such mesh, such measurements being taken in the clear when the net is wet; and if any person shall use any net contrary to this provision, such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 101, l esides forfeiting such net. But the Commissioners may alter the size of meshes in certain localities by their bye-laws. The illegal nets may be retained till the hearing, when the Justices W'll make an order as to their disposal."

Spawn of Salmon, Trout, or Eels. â If any person shall wilfully take, sell, purchase, or have in his possession the spawn, smolts, or fry of salmon, or of trout, or of eels, or in any way or by any device wilfully obstruct the passage of the said smolts or fry, or injure or disturb any such spawn or fry, or any spawning bed, bank, or shallow where the same may be, such person shall forfeit 0. for each offence, and also the nets or 1 56 Vict. c. 106, Â 65.

- 8 9 Vict. c. 108, Â 11; 5 6 Vict. c. 146, Â Â 20, 66.

= 8 9 Vict. c. 108, Â 12. â â 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 103.

engines used; but there is no power to seize the spawn.

Uiidean Fish. â If any person at any time wilfully take, kill, destroy, expose to sale, or have in his possession, any red, black, foul, unclean, or unseasonable salmon or trout, such person shall forfeit and pay any sura. not exceeding 21. for every such

fish so taken, c.; but fish caught accidentally and immediately returned to the water are excepted, There is no power to seize unclean fish.

Poisoning Rivers. â If any person is found on the bank of or near any river with any deleterious matter in his possession, under such circumstances as shall satisfy the Court before whom he may be tried, that such person had employed, or was aboiit to employ, such deleterious matter for the capture or destruction of fish, the said Court is hereby empowered to inflict on such person a penalty not less than bl. nor more than loZ. for every such offence; and any person found taking fish from any river or lake, where it shall be proved to the satisfaction of any Justice that such fish have been wilfully poisoned, shall be subject to a penalty of not less than 10s. nor more than 5. Moreover, "No person shall throw, empty, or cause to run or flow into any river or lake, any dye-stuff or other deleterious or poisonous liquid, or shall tlirow into such river or lake any limÂ, spurge, or other deleterious or poisonous matter, or shall steep in such river or lake any flax or hemp, under a penalty of 10. for every such offence.

1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 73. See p. 278. *ibid.* Â 74.

M3 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 36. See p. 87. 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 80.

CLOSE TIME. 'Ito

Annual Close Time for Salmon â Freshwater. â As regards rivers or lakes above the tideway, or portions thereof where the tide ebbs and flows (except in the counties afternamed), the close season for salmon commences on 15th September. As the close time must at least extend to 168 days, it follows that the last day of the close season is 1st March, inclusive, or in leap years 29th February.

In Tidal Waters. â As regards the sea-coast, estuaries, and tideways, the close season for salmon commences on 1st September, and counting 168 days, the last day is the 15th February following.

The Commissioners have no power to reduce the entire period of 168 days, though they may alter the time of commencing and ending the close season in other respects. By 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 35, the close season cannot be otherwise altered by the Commissioners till three years elapse from the last change.

Close Season for Salmon in Certain Excepted Counties. â In any of the following counties, or on the coast 1 9 10 Vict. c. 114, Â 1. 2 *Ibid.*

2 Varrjing Close Time in Fishery Districts.â hi the " Rexjort of the Irish Fishery Coinmissioners for 1862," a table is given, showing the tiines now fixed in the dilferent districts for the commencement and close of the fishing season for salmon and trout. As regards trout, those periods will remain in full force till altered. But as regards salmon, inasmuch as 168 days must now be allowed in all cases for the close season, it is only the commencement of the close season for salmon there specified that is in force; and if the number of close days does not amount to 168, then there must be added such a number to the end of the existing close season as will make up the number of 168. The latest changes made by the Commissioners in each district can only be ascertained with certainty by application to the Clerk of the Peace, or to the place in each petty sessions' district for posting up notices.

thereof, viz. the counties of Antrim, Tyrone, Donegal, Londonderry, Mayo, Fer-managh, Leitrim, and Sligo, no sahnnon shall be killed, destroyed, or taken by any person from any river, lake, or estuary, or on the sea-coast, on or after 20th August.

And counting the 168 days prescribed as the minimum by 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 21, the last day of the close season in those counties is February.3d.

Fishing Wears in Close Time. â An exception is made from the penalties of fishing in close time in favour of certain wears in February. The owners or tenants of ancient wears constructed in freshwater rivers above the ebb and flow of the tide, may use such wears during the month of February, and take salmon from the boxes, cribs, or cruives, or by drawing nets near such wears.-There is nothing in subsequent Acts which seems to repeal or to be inconsistent with this enactment.

Annual Close Time â Trout Fishing. â The close season for trout fishing extends from 29th September to February 28th or 29th i. e. the last day) following exclusive. And no fixed crib, cruive, box, or other device, nor any haul, draw, or other net of any description, shall be used for catching trout in any salmon lake or river between 1st and 29 th September, exclusive, or at such periods as may be fixed by the Commissioners for certain lakes or rivers." The Commissioners have power to change the close season.

910 Vict. c. 114, Â 3. *Mbid.* Â 2.

3 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 45. *Ibid.* Â 45.

5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 33-35. See note, ante, p. 275. In Lough Neagh, pollen or freshwater herring may be caught by trammel or set nets of thread and yarn, between 1st March and 29th September,

Close Season for Angling. â The close season for angling with single rod and line extends from 1st November to 1st February following, exclusive. The penalty for angling in close season is a sum not exceeding 1l? The close season for angling extends only to salmon and trout; for as to other freshwater fish, there is no close season whatever, and therefore those entitled to fish generally may fish any other kind of fish all the year round. Eels are protected only against being caught by nets, baskets, c.

Angling is subject to the same restrictions as other modes of fishing, if not specially excepted, as it is sometimes in the several enactments of the Irish Fisheries Acts.

Close Time for Eels. â It shall not be lawful for any person whatever, between 1st January and 1st July exclusive, to hang or fix any coghill, eel, or other net, or basket, or basket-work, in the eye, gap, or sluice of any eel, or other wear, in any river, or to make use of any other fixed engine for taking eels, or between 1st July and 10th January following, to keep or leave such net, basket, or other engine set, or in the water, in the eye, gap, or sluices of such eel or other wears, between sunrise and sunset.

Eel Fisher. â The fishing of eels is prohibited merely when pursued by the means and at the times above stated; but as regards other means of catching them, 1 26 27 Vict. e. 114, Â 23. = 5 G Vict. c. 106, Â 69.

3 See pp. 270, 272, 279. The law of poisoning anglers is the same as in England, ante, p. 119; and see the enactment, p. 280. â 5 6 Vict. e. 106, Â 31.

such means may be used at any time of the year, the rule being that eel fishing is open all the year round, except so far as is restricted by the above enactment.

If any person during such close time shall place or hang any coghill, or eel-nets, or baskets, or other fixed modes of catching fish, in the eyes, gaps, or sluices of eel or other wears, he shall forfeit the nets, and 10s. for each net; and if any person shall

hang such nets between sunrise and sunset during the open season for eel fishing, he shall forfeit the nets and 51 besides for each such net; and proof of the person being occupier of the wear shall be prima facie evidence of the nets, c. being hung by him.

If the proprietor or tenant of any eel-wear shall take, or suffer to be taken therein any salmon or trout, or salmon or trout fry, or spent salmon, every such proprietor or tenant shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence a sum not exceeding 10.

Removal of Salmon Nets during Close Time. â Every proprietor, lessee, or other person engaged in fishing for salmon by means of nets, of any kind or description, shall remove and carry away from any strand, or the banks of any river, or from the vicinity thereof, during the yearly close season all such nets, under a penalty of forfeiting such nets, and a sum between 21. and 10.

Fishing, c. during Annual Close Time. â If any person during the annual close season wilfully take or fish for, or aid or assist in taking or fishing for, any salmon or trout, he shall forfeit the fish, and the net or engine 1 See also Spawn, p. 273. 2. 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 36.

3 Ibid. Â 77. 13 14 Vict. c. 35, Â 34.

used. And any person who shall buy or sell, or expose to sale, or have in his custody or possession, any salmon or trout, or part or portion thereof, caught in the annual close time, shall forfeit such fish, or part of fish, and a sum not exceeding 21. for each such fish or part of fish." And possession of a salmon or trout, or part thereof, during close time, shall be jirimd facie evidence that the salmon or trout was caught during close time.

Weekly Close Time for Salmon and Trout. â No salmon or trout shall be fished for or taken in any way except by single rod and line between 6 a. m. on Saturday, and 6 A. M. on Monday following. Any net, or other instrument, and any crib, box, or cruve used within that time for fishing, shall be forfeited. Salmon or trout caught for artificial propagation are always excepted. No person shall scare or obstruct the free passage of salmon or trout during the weekly close season, under a penalty of 21. to 10. and forfeiture of nets or instruments used; but fishers by rod and line are excepted." And a penalty of 10s. to 50. shall be incurred by the person occupying or using such cribs, boxes, c. during weekly close time.

It follows that no penalty is incurred for fishing with the rod and line on Sunday during the open season.

As regards other fish than salmon or trout, there is no restriction of a weekly close time.

1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 36.

2 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 36; 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 35.

3 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 36; 13 14 Vict. e. 88, Â 36. 26 27 Viet. c. 114, Â 20.

Â Ibid. Â 22. " Ibid. Â 25.

M3 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 46.

Fishing in Annual or Weekly Close Time. â If a boat, cot, or ciirragh, found on or near waters frequented by salmon or trout has been used during annual or weekly-close time for fishing, the person so using shall forfeit hi.; and on a second offence, the boat, cot, or curragh may be seized and forfeited, unless the boat belongs to another person who was not privy to such use. So nets illegally used during close season may

be seized and removed by the constabulary or coast guards. But there is no power to seize the fish caught during weekly close time.

Poaching in a Private Fishery. â There were various enactments in the Irish Fishery Acts directed against persons poaching in a several fishery; but the Larceny Act (24 25 Vict. c. 9G, Â Â 24, 25, 103 =) applies to Ireland as well as England. There are, however, some enactments still outstanding in Ireland, which go beyond anything which exists in England.

Filtering Lands to Fish. â If any person enter upon any lands or premises for the purpose or under the pretence of fishing or angling in any lake, river, stream, pond, or water, without authority in writing from the proprietor or occupier of such lands or premises, such person shall forfeit 2l. for every such offence. And any person removing, taking, using, or employing any cott, barge, boat, or vessel, without permission of the owner thereof, shall forfeit a sum of 2.

1 26 27 Vict. c. 114, Â 18. Â 8 9 Vict. c. 108, Â 10.

3 Ante, pp. 73, 77, 79. The procedure against poachers in Ireland under the Larceny Act is pointed out by the 14 15 Vict. c. 93, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 120.

5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 71. Where the offence is identical with that described in the Larceny Act, the latter Act must be followed. Ibid. Â 72.

Obstruding Persons Fishing Legalhj. â If any person shall resist or obstruct any persons lawfully engaged in fishing, or in proceeding to fish, or in returning from fishing, or shall wilfully and maliciously place any net or other engines with the intent and design to prevent fish from entering the nets of other persons set or placed in a legal manner, every person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 6l. and every such net or other engine so placed shall also be forfeited.

Offenders bound to tell their Names. â " When any person shall be found, at sea, or on rivers, lakes, or other waters, or on land, offending against any of the provisions of this Act by the use of any illegal net, engine, or device whatsoever for the taking of fish, or by the use of any net, engine, or device prohibited at such time, or in any other manner, it shall be lawful for any officer or person hereinbefore empowered to enforce the provisions of this Act, or for any person interested in the fishery in which such illegal act may be committed, to require the person so found offending forthwith to desist from such offence, and also to tell his christian name, surname, and place of abode; and in case such person shall, after being so required, refuse to tell his real name or place of abode, or shall give such a general description of his place of abode as shall be illusory for the purpose of discovery, or shall wilfully continue such offence, it shall be lawful for the officer or person so requiring as aforesaid, and also for any person acting by his order and in his aid, 1 5 6 Vict. c. 106, Â 28.

to apprehend such offender, and to convey him or cause him to be conveyed, as soon as conveniently may be, before a Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with according to law: provided always, that no person so apprehended shall on any pretence whatsoever be detained for a longer period than twenty-four hours from the time of his apprehension before he shall be brought before some Justice of the Peace; and that if he cannot, on account of the absence or distance of the residence of any such Justice of the Peace, or owing to any other reasonable cause, be brought before a Justice of the Peace

within such twelve hours sic) as aforesaid, then the person so apprehended shall be discharged, but may nevertheless be proceeded against for his offence by summon or warrant, according to the provisions hereinafter mentioned, as if no such apprehension had taken place."

This enactment is almost verbatim the same as the enactment in the English Game Act, 12 AVm. IV. c. 32, Â 31, and therefore is construed in the same way strictly. The persons named can alone make the demand, and it must be made on the spot. The demand of the name, c. must be made before an attempt to arrest.³ The party, when arrested, can be arrested only by the persons described, viz. the water bailiff or officer, or the owner, but he can be detained by those assisting in the arrest while the party arresting goes in search of a Justice within the twelve hours."

156 Vict. c. 106, Â 87. This section does not apply to poachers, who are to be dealt with as in England under 2425 Vict. c. 96, ante, p. 73. See Paterson's Game Laws, p. 59.

3 R. V. Long, 7 C. and P. 314; R v. Curran, 6 C. and P. 397.

Evans v. MacLoughlan, 4 L. T. N. S. 31.

Offenders using Violence. "Where any persons, to the number of three or more together, shall be found by any officer of Her Majesty's navy, or of the coast-guard, or any water bailiff or peace officer, by violence, intimidation, or menace impeding or obstructing, or attempting to impede or obstruct, any other person or persons in the lawful prosecution of any fishery, it shall be lawful for such officer of the navy or coast-guard, or water bailiff, or peace officer so requiring, and also for any person acting by his order or in his aid, to apprehend such offenders, and to convey them before a Justice of Peace to be dealt with according to law; and every person so offending by such violence, intimidation, or menace as aforesaid, and every person then and there aiding or abetting such offender, shall, upon being convicted thereof, forfeit and pay for every such offence such penalty, not exceeding twenty pounds, as to the convicting Justice shall seem meet, together with the costs of the conviction, which said penalty shall be in addition to and independent of any other penalty to which any such person may be liable for any other offence against this Act."

This enactment resembles the section in the Night reaching Act, 9 Geo. IV. c. 69, Â-

Water Bailiffs. "Any person interested in the preservation of the fish of any river or lake, or any persons who have united themselves into a society for the preservation of the fisheries, or the owner or proprietor of any fishery in any river or lake, or the proprietor of any 156 Vict. c. 10(), Â 88.

- Paterson's Game Laws, pp. 93, 94.

salmon fishery on the sea coast may appoint, during pleasure, by an instrument in writing of a given form, water bailiffs, whose appointment shall be endorsed by two Justices at petty sessions, and two Justices may also revoke such appointment. A person acting as water bailiff without having his appointment confirmed by Justices forfeits 10. So the board of conservators may appoint water bailiffs who require no approval of Justices. The water bailiff has the powers of a constable, and shall be at liberty, without let or hindrance, to enter into and pass through or along the banks or borders of any lakes or rivers frequented by salmon or trout, or of the tributaries thereof;

and, with boats, to enter all such lakes or rivers, and to enter and examine all weirs, sluices, mill-dams, mill-races, and watercourses, and all standing, floating, or other nets whatsoever, and to seize all illegal nets, engines, and instruments whatsoever, when used illegally; and the production of his certificate of appointment shall be sufficient warrant for the water bailiff acting; but the bailiff shall have no power to enter a garden enclosed, nor a dwelling-house or its curtilage, unless the ordinary road to a wear, dam, or dyke lies through the same, save when authorized by a Justice's warrant. Justices may grant a search warrant on oath to authorize a water bailiff, or other officer appointed by the Commissioners, to enter dwelling-houses or gardens, for the purpose of detecting offences, at such times in the day or night as the warrant shall mention; but the warrant shall not continue in force

156 Vict. c. 106, Â 82. Ibid. Â 83.

s 11 12 Vict. c. 92, Â 36. 5G Vict. c. 106, Â 84.

for more than a week. Officers of Her Majesty's cruisers and men of the coast-guard service may also act as constables, and board vessels to seize illegal nets or engines, c.-

Procedure, â Offences are to be determined by one or more Justices of the place where the offence was committed. Where the offence is committed at sea the Justices of the counties or towns adjoining the coast have jurisdiction." Where the offence is committed in rivers, lakes, or streams forming boundaries between counties or districts, such offence may be prosecuted before any Justices of either district. The penalty may be recovered by distress and sale of the offender's goods, or if no goods, by imprisonment. ' Where the Commissioners have executed works at the expense of the offender, such expenses may be sued for by civil bill, or by action in any superior Court." A form of conviction and dismissal is given. The person aggrieved may appeal to quarter sessions. The Lord Lieutenant may remit the penalty. " A report is to be made to the Commissioners of the convictions at each petty sessions."

In case illegal nets and engines are seized, the officer or person so seizing them may retain them in his custody till the sitting of petty sessions, when the Justices will order them to be forfeited, and if illegal in form, to be destroyed or sold.

' 56 Vict. c. 106, Â 85.- Ibid. Â 86. Â 87. Ibid. Â 94.

â Ibid. Â 96. = 13 14 Vict. c. 88, Â 47.

Â 56 Vict. c. 106, Â 94. " Ibid. Â 95. 8 i ij, gÂ 93 joo.

Â Ibid. Â 99, 100, 101. '0 Ibid. Â 102.

"Ibid. Â 107. i- Ibid. Â 103.

Witnesses may be committed to the house of correction who refuse, without cause, to give evidence. Informers and owners of fisheries are admissible as witnesses.

156 Vict. c. 106, Â 105. Ibid. Â 104.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to Fisheries of Salmon in England fi t August, 1861.

WHEREAS the salmon fisheries of England have of late years been greatly injured, and for the purpose of increasing the supply of salmon it is expedient to amend the laws relating to fisheries of salmon in England: be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and-with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and

Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:â

Pkeliminary.

1. Short Tivf.â This Act may be cited for all purjwses as the Salmon Fishery Act, L (J1.

2. Ajipucaion of Act. â This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland, or to the river Tweed, as defined by the Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859.

3. Commencement of Act. â This Act shall not come into operation until the first day of October one thousand eight hundi'ed and sixty-one.

4. Definition of Terms.â In this Act, unless there is something inconsistent in the context, the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned shall have respectively the meanings hereby assigned to them; that is to say,

"Person " shall include any body of persons, corporate or unin corporate:

"Salmon " shall include all migratory fish of the genus salmon â whether known by the names hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, salmon, cock or kipper, kelt, laurel, girling, grilse, botcher, blue cock, blue pole, fork tail, mort, peal, herring peal, may peal, pugg peal, harvest cock, sea trout, white trout, sewin, buntling, guiniad, tubs, yellow fin, sprod, herling, whiting, bull trout, whitling, scurf, burn tail, fiy samlet, smoult, smelt, skirling or scarling, parr, spawn, pink, last spring, hepper, last brood, gi-avelling, shed, scad, blue fin, black tip, fingerling, brandling, brondling, or by any other local name: " Young of salmon" shall include all young of the salmon species, whether known by the names of fry, samlet, smolt, smelt, skirling or skarling, pait, spawn, pink, last spring, hepper, last brood, gravelling, shed, scad, blue fin, black tip, fingerling, brandling, brondling, or by any other name, local or other, wise: " Court " shall include two or more magistrates assembled in petty sessions: " Tidal waters " shall include the sea, and all rivers, creeks, streams, and other waters as far as the tide flows and reflows: " Inland waters " shall mean all waters that are not tidal waters; " Dam " shall mean all wears and other fixed "obstructions used for the purpose of damming up water: " Fishing wear" shall mean a dam used for the exclusive purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish: " Fishing mill dam " shall mean a dam used or intended to be used l)artly for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish, and partly for the purpose of supplying water for milling and other purposes: " Fixed engine " sliall include stake-nets, bag-nets, putts, putchers, and all fixed implements or engines for catching or for facilitating the catching of fish: " Home Office" shall mean one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Law op FisninO.

Prohibition of certain Modes of destroying Fish.

5. Poisoning Hirers. â Every person who causes or knowingly permits to flow, or puts or knowingly permits to be put, into any waters containing salmon, or into any tributaries thereof, any liquid or solid matter to such an extent as to cause the waters to poison or kill fish, shall incur the following penalties; (that is to say), (1.) Upon the first conviction a penalty not exceeding five pounds: (2.) Upon the second conviction a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding two pounds for every day diu-ing which such offence is continued: (3.) Upon the thliird or any subsequent conviction, a penalty not exceeding twenty jounds a day for every

day during which such offence is continued, commencing from the date of the third conviction: but no person shall be subject to the foregoing penalties for any act done in the exercise of any right to which he is by law entitled, if he prove to the satisfaction of the Court before whom he is tried that he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render harmless the liquid or solid matter so permitted to flow or to be put into waters; but nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from acquiring a legal right in cases where he would have acquired it if this Act had not passed, or exempt any person from any punishment to which he would otherwise be subject, or legalize any act or default that would but for this Act be deemed to be a nuisance or otherwise be contrary to law.

G. Cost of neutralising the Poison. â Where any proceedings are instituted by any complainant against any person for the recovery of any penalties alleged to have been incurred by him under the last preceding section, if such person, hereinafter referred to as "the defendant," on appearing before the Justices constituting the Court by which he is to be tried in pursuance of this Act, alleges, by way of defence, that he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render such matter harmless, and proves to the satisfaction of the Court that in the event of the complaint being decided against him the expense of permanently preventing the matter complained of would, exclusive of costs, exceed one hundred pounds, and gives security, to be approved by such Court, duly to prosecute his appeal and to abide the event thereof, all proceedings before the Justices shall be stayed, and it shall be lawful for such complainant to bring an action in one of Her Majesty's superior courts of law at Westminster against the defendant; and the plaintiff in such action shall deliver to the defendant an issue or issues whereby the question whether he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render such matter harmless may be tried; and the form of such issue or issues, in case of dispute, or in the case of nonappearance of the defendant, shall be settled by the Court in which the action is brought, and such action shall be prosecuted and issue or issues tried in the same manner and subject to the same incidents in and subject to which actions are prosecuted and issues tried in other cases within the jurisdiction of such Court, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

7. Jury to decide as to Remedy. â The verdict of the jury on such issue shall, unless the Court before which the same is tried orders a new trial, be conclusive as to the questions involved in any subsequent proceedings that may be had for the recovery of any penalties in pursuance of the said section, and any costs that may have been incurred before the Justices by the parties to such action as is mentioned in this section shall be deemed to be costs incurred in such action, and be payable accordingly.

8. Fishing with Lights, Spears, &c. â No person shall do the following things or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Use any light for the purpose of catching salmon: (2.) Use any spear, gaff, strokehall, snatch, or other like instrument for catching salmon: (3.) Have in his possession a light or any of the foregoing instruments under such circumstances as to satisfy the Court before whom he is tried that he intended at the time to catch salmon by means thereof: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and shall forfeit any instruments used by him or found in his possession in contravention of this section;

but this section shall not apply to any person using a gaff' as auxiliary to angling with a rod and line.

9. Using Roe as a Bait. â No person shall do the following tilings or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Use any fish roe for the purpose of fishing: (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, any salmon roe: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds, and shall forfeit all salmon roe found in his possession; but this section shall not apply to any person who uses or has in his possession salmon roe for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes, or gives any reason satisfactory to the Court by whom he is tried for having the same in his possession.

10. Meshes of Nets. â No person shall take or attempt to take salmon with any net having a mesh of less dimensions than two inches in extension from knot to knot (the measurement to be made on each side of the square), or eight inches measured round each mesh when wet; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit all nets and tackle used by him in so doing, and shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and the placing two or more nets behind or near to each other in such manner as to practically diminish the mesh of the nets used, or the covering the nets used with canvas, or the using any other artifice so as to evade the provisions of this section with respect to the mesh of nets, shall be deemed to be an act in contravention of this section.

11. Fixed Engines. â No fixed engine of any description shall be placed or used for catching salmon in any inland or tidal waters; and any engine placed or used in contravention of this section may be taken possession of or destroyed; and any engine so placed or used, and any salmon taken by such engine, shall be forfeited, and, in addition thereto, the owner of any engine placed or used in contravention of this section shall, for each day of so placing or using the same, incur a penalty not exceeding ten pounds; and for the purposes of this section a net that is secured by anchors, or otherwise temporarily fixed to the soil, shall be deemed to be a fixed engine, but this section shall not affect any ancient right or mode of fishing as lawfully exercised at the time of the passing of this Act by any person by virtue of any grant or charter or immemorial usage; provided always, that nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to apply to fishing weirs or fishing mill dams.

12. Dams and Weirs. â The following regulations shall be observed with respect to dams: (1.) No dam except such fishing weirs and fishing mill dams as are lawfully in use at the time of the passing of this Act, by virtue of a grant or charter or immemorial usage, shall be used for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of salmon: 1. Any person catching or attempting to catch salmon in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for each salmon which he catches: 2. All traps, nets, and contrivances used in or in connection with the dam for the purpose of catching salmon shall be forfeited: 3. All salmon caught in contravention of the above prohibition shall be forfeited: And no fishing weir, although lawfully in use as aforesaid, shall be used for the purposes of catching salmon unless it have therein such free gap as is hereinafter mentioned; and no fishing mill dam, although lawfully in use as aforesaid, shall be used for the purposes of catching salmon unless it have attached thereto a fish

pass of such form and dimensions as shall be approved of by the Home Office, nor unless such fish pass has constantly running through it such a flow of water as will enable salmon to pass up and down such pass, but so nevertheless that such pass shall not be larger nor deeper than requisite for the above purposes: (2.) No person shall catch or attempt to catch, except by rod and line, any salmon in the head race or tail race of any mill, or within fifty yards below any dam, unless such mill or dam has attached thereto a fish pass of such form and dimensions as may be approved by the Home Office, and such fish pass has constantly running through it such a flow of water as will enable salmon to pass up and down it; and if any person acts in contravention of the foregoing provision, 1. He shall incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds for each offence, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for every salmon so caught: 2. He shall forfeit all salmon caught in contravention of this section, and all nets or other instruments used or placed for catching the same. 13. Gratings across Side Streams. — Where salmon, or the young of salmon are led aside out of a main stream by means of any artificial channel used for the purpose of supplying towns with water, or for supplying any navigable canal, the company or persons having the control over such artificial channel shall, within six months after the commencement of this Act, put up and shall maintain, at their own costs and charges, a grating or gratings across such channel, for the purpose of preventing the descent of the salmon or the young of salmon, and such grating or gratings shall be placed in such form and manner as may be approved by one of the inspectors in this Act mentioned; and any company or persons failing to put a grating or gratings in cases where they are required to do so by this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of six months during which he fails to comply with the provisions of this section; and any such company or person failing so to maintain the same shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound for every day during which such failure continues: provided always, that no such grating shall be so placed as to interfere with the passage of boats on any navigable canal.

PROHIBITION OF THE DESTRUCTION OF UNSEASONABLE

Fish.

14. Unclean Fish. — No person shall do any of the following things; that is to say, (1.) Wilfully take any unclean or unseasonable salmon; (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, any unclean or unseasonable salmon, or any part thereof: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur the following penalties; that is to say, (1.) He shall forfeit any fish taken, bought, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession; (2.) He shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds in respect of each fish taken, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession: But this section shall not apply (1.) To any person who takes such fish accidentally, and forthwith returns the same to the water with the least possible injury: (2.) To any person who takes or is in possession of such fish for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes.

15. Young Salmon. — No person shall do the following things or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Wilfully take or destroy the young of salmon; (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, the young of salmon; (3.) Place any device for the purpose of obstructing the passage of the young of salmon; (4.) Wilfully injure the young of salmon; (5.) Wilfully disturb any spawning bed, or any bank or shallow

on which the spawn of salmon may be: And any person acting in contravention of this section, shall incur the following penalties; that is to say, (1.) He shall forfeit all the young of salmon found in his possession; (2.) he shall forfeit all rods, lines, nets, devices, and instruments used in committing any of the above offences; (3.) He shall for each offence pay a penalty not exceeding five pounds; But nothing herein contained shall apply to any person who may have obtained such young of salmon for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes, and nothing herein contained shall prejudice the legal right of any owner to take materials from any stream.

16. Spawning Salmon. If any person wilfully disturbs or attempts to catch salmon when spawning, or when on or near their spawning beds, he shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; but this section shall not apply to any person who may catch or attempt to catch salmon for the purposes of artificial propagation or other scientific purposes.

Restrictions as to Times of Fishing.

17. Close Time. No person shall fish for, catch, or attempt to catch, or kill salmon between the days hereinafter mentioned (which interval is herein referred to as the close season); that is to say, between the first day of September and the first day of February following, both inclusive, except only that it shall be lawful to fish with a rod and line between the first day of September and the first day of November following, both inclusive; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit any salmon caught by him, and shall in addition thereto incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding two pounds in respect of each salmon so caught.

18. Power of Home Office to vary Close Season. The Home Office may, upon the application of the Justices in quarter sessions assembled of any county abutting on water containing salmon, extend or vary the time during which it is prohibited to take salmon in such waters; any such application shall be forwarded to the Home Office by the Chairman of such Justices, but it shall not be entertained by the Home Office until due proof is given that notice of such application has been served on the Clerk of the Peace of every county abutting on such river other than the county from the Justices of which the application proceeds, and that a copy of such notice has been published in every county abutting on such river by advertisement once at least in each of four successive weeks in some local newspaper; the extension of such time as aforesaid by the Home Office shall be made by order under the hand of one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and a copy of the London Gazette containing such order shall be evidence of the same having been made.

For the purposes of this section any riding or other division of a county having a separate court of quarter sessions shall be deemed a separate county, and any penalties imposed by this Act for the purpose of prohibiting the killing of fish during the close time shall apply to such extended close time; and the Home Office may from time to time vary the close time so extended.

19. Selling Fish during Close Time. No person shall buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession for sale, any salmon between the third day of September and the second day of February following; and any person acting in contravention of this Act shall forfeit any fish so bought, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession for

sale, and shall incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds for each such fish; but this section shall not apply to any person buying, selling, or exposing for sale, or having in his possession for sale, salmon cured, pickled, or dried, or any fresh salmon caught beyond the limits of this Act, nevertheless the burden of proving any fresh salmon that is sold, or exposed, or in the possession of any person for sale between the said third day of September and the said second day of February to have been caught beyond the limits of this Act shall lie on the person selling or exposing the same for sale, or having the same in his possession for sale.

20. Removal of Fixed Engines during Close Time. â The proprietor or occupier of every fishery for salmon shall, within thirty-six hours after the commencement of the close season, cause to be removed and carried away from the waters within his fishery the inscales, hecks, tops, and rails of all cruives, boxes, or cribs, and all planks and temporary fix-tiu's used for taking or killing salmon, and all other obstructions to the free passage of fish in or through the cruives, cribs, and boxes within his fishery; and if any proprietor or occupier omits to remove and carry away in manner aforesaid any things hereby required to be removed and carried away he shall incur the following penalties; (that is to say,) (1.) He shall forfeit all the engines or other things that are not removed and carried away in compliance with this section; (2.) He shall, for every day during which he suffers such things to remain unremoved beyond the period prescribed by this Act pay a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

21. Weekly Close Time. â No person shall fish for, catch, or kill by any means other than a rod and line, any salmon between the hour of twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and the hour of six of the clock on Monday morning; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit all fish taken by him, and any net or movable instrument used by him in taking the same, and in addition thereto shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound in respect of each fish so taken between twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and six of the clock on Monday morning; but nothing in this section contained shall compel the owner of any putts or putchers to remove or draw up the same during such time as is mentioned in this section, or subject him to a penalty, so that he lets down a net in such manner or uses such other device as the Home Office approves for the purpose of preventing salmon passing into the putts or putchers during such time as aforesaid.

22. Cribs or Traps during Weekly Close Time. â The proprietor or occupier of every fishery shall, between twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and six of the clock on the Monday morning following, maintain a clear opening, of not less than four feet in width from the bottom to the top, through all cribs, boxes, or cruives used for taking salmon within his fishery, so that a free space of that width is effectually secured for the passage of fish up and down through each box, crib, or cruive, whether used for the purpose of fishing or not; and shall, for the purpose of maintaining such opening, remove the inscales and rails of all such boxes, cribs, or cruives; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur the following penalties; (L) He shall for each offence pay a sum not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for each fish so taken: (2.) He shall forfeit every fish caught in contravention of this section.

Fish Passes.

23. A ttacmncj Fish Passes to existing Zam,?â Any proprietor of a fishery with the written consent of the Home Office may attach to every dam existing at the time of the passing of this Act a fish pass, of such form and dimensions as the Home Office may approve, so that no injury be done to the milling i)ower or to the supply of water to or of any navigable river, canal, or other inland navigation by such fish pass; and any person obstructing any person legally authorized in erecting or doing any necessary act to erect or maintain such fish pass shall incur a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for each act of obstmction; and any person injuring such fish pass shall pay the expense of repairing the injury, such expense to be recovered in a summai y manner, and, in addition thereto, if such injury is wilful, shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and any person doing any act for the purpose of preventing salmon from passing through a fish pass, or taking any salmon in its passage through the same, shall incur a penalty not exceeding five poinids for a first offence, and not exceeding ten pounds for each subsequent offence, and shall forfeit any salmon taken by him in contravention of this section, and any instrument used by hiui in taking the same: Provided that if any injury is done to any dam by reason of the affixing of a fisli pass in pursuance of this section, any person sustaining any loss tiiereby may recover compensation for such injury in a summary manner from the person or body of persons by whom such fish pass has been affixed.

24. Notice to attach Fish Pass.â The Home Office shall not give their consent to tlie attachment by a proprietor of a fish pass to any dam, in pursuance of the last preceding section, unless such proprietor proves, to the satisfaction of the Home Office, that lie has served notice on the owner of such dam of his intention to apply fur such consent, and at the same time has furnished him with plan and specification of the fish pass which he proposes to erect, a reasonable time l)efore liis application; and it shall be lawful for such owner to urge any objections he may tlink fit to the Home Office against their giving their consent, and the Home Office shall take any objections so made into consideration before they give their consent to the attachment of the fish pass.

25. Fish Passes to future Dams. â Every person who, after the passing of tliis Act, in waters where salmon are found, constmcts a new dam, or raises or alters, so as to create increased obstruction to fish, a dam already constructed, shall attach and maintain attached thereto in an efficient state a fish pass of such furm and dimensions as may be determined by the Home Office, and if he do not, sucli person shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pomids; and it shall be lawful for the Home Office to cause to be done any work by this section required to be done by such person, and to recover the expense of doing the same in a summary manner from the person in default; but this section shall not authorize anything to be done which may injuriously affect any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation, nor shall anything in this or the last preceding section prevent any person from removing a fish pass for the purpose of repairing or altering a dam, so that within a reasonable time he restore such fish pass in as an efficient a state as it was before he removed the same.

26. Suj pli of Water to Fish Posses.â Where a fish pass is attached to any dam in pursuance of this Act, the sluices, if any, fur diiwing off the water which would otherwise flow over the dam shall be kept shut at all times when the water is not

required for milling purposes in such manner as to cause such water to flow through the fish pass; and any person making default in complying with the requisitions of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five shillings 2s. 6d. for every hour during which such default continues; but this section shall not preclude any person from opening a sluice for the purpose of letting off water in cases of flood, or for milling purposes, or when necessary for the purposes of navigation, or for cleaning or repairing any dam or mill or the appurtenances thereof.

Restrictions as to Fish-holes, 27. Free Gaps. — Where any fishing weir extends more than halfway across any stream at its lowest state of water, it shall have a free gap or opening in accordance with the regulations following, unless otherwise authorized by the Home Office, under the powers of the Act; that is to say, (1.) The free gap shall be situated in the deepest part of the stream between the points where it is intercepted by the weir: (2.) The sides of the gap shall be in a line with and parallel to the direction of the stream at the weir: (3.) The bottom of the gap shall be level with the natural bed of the stream above and below the gap: (4.) The width of the gap in its narrowest part shall be not less than one tenth part of the width of the stream: provided always, that such gap shall not be required to be wider than forty feet, and shall not in any case be narrower than three feet.

28. Free Gaps in Fishing Weirs. — The following rules shall be observed for the purpose of enforcing efficient free gaps in fishing weirs; that is to say, (1.) Where a weir is without a legal free gap at the time of the commencement of this Act the owner of such weir shall within twelve months after the commencement of this Act make such a gap, and if he does not he shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of twelve months during which he does not make such free gap.

(2.) Where a free gap has been made in a weir, but the same is not maintained in accordance with this Act, the owner of such weir shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound a day for each day he is in default: (3.) No alteration shall be made in the bed of any river in such manner as to reduce the flow of water through a free gap; if it is, the person making the same shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty of one pound a day until he restores the bed of the river to its original state: (4.) No person shall place any obstruction, use any contrivance, or do any Act whereby fish may be scared, detained, or in any way prevented from freely entering and passing up and down a free gap at all periods of the year; and any person placing any obstruction, using any contrivance, or doing any act in contravention of the regulation lastly hereinbefore contained shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for the first offence, and not exceeding ten pounds for each subsequent offence; but this last regulation shall not apply to a temporary bridge or board used for crossing the free gap, and taken away immediately when a person has crossed the same.

29. Boxes and Cribs in Fishing Weirs and Fishing Mill-Dams. — The following Rules shall be observed in relation to the construction of boxes and cribs in fishing weirs and fishing mill-dams; that is to say, (1.) The upper surface of the sill shall be level with the bed of the river: (2.) The bars or inscales of the heck or upstream side of the box or crib shall not be nearer each other than two inches, and shall be capable of being removed, and shall be placed perpendicularly: And the owner of any fishing

wear, or fishing mill dam, that has attached thereto any box or crib, in contravention of this Act, shall bring the same into conformity with this Act within six months after the commencement of this Act; and he shall incur a penalty not exceeding 5. for every day after the expiration of such period of six months, during which he fails to comply with the provisions of this section; and any owner failing so to maintain the same, shall incur a penalty not exceeding 1. for every day during which such failure continues.

30. **Spur Walls in Fishing Wears or Fishing Mill Dams.** There shall not be attached to any box or crib in any fishing wear or fishing mill dam, any spur or tail wall, leader, or outrigger, of a greater length than twenty feet from the upper or lower side of such box or crib; and if any box or crib in any fishing wear or fishing mill dam has any walls, leaders, or outriggers, in contravention of this section, the owner of the wear or fishing mill dam shall incur a penalty not exceeding 10. for every day during the continuance thereof.

Central Authority.

31. **Superintendence of Fisheries by Home Office.** The general superintendence of the salmon fisheries throughout England shall be vested in the Home Office, and it shall be lawful for the Home Office to appoint two inspectors of fisheries for three years, to assign to them their duties, and to pay to them such salaries as may from time to time be determined by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

The Home Office may from time to time remove the said inspectors, and appoint other persons in their stead.

32. **Annual Reports of Fishery Inspectors.** The Home Office shall annually lay before Parliament reports from the inspectors, which reports shall contain as far as may be practicable a statistical account of the fisheries, with such other information as may be collected, and suggestions offered for their regulation and improvement.

33. **Conservators of Rivers.** It shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace assembled at any general or quarter sessions of the peace from time to time to appoint conservators or overseers for the preservation of salmon, and enforcing for that purpose the provisions of this Act within the limits of the jurisdiction of such Justices.

34. **Search Warrant to Enter Suspected Places.** It shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace, upon an information on oath that there is probable cause to suspect any breach of the provisions of this Act to have been committed on any premises, or any salmon illegally taken, or any illegal nets or other engines to be concealed on any premises, by warrant under his hand and seal, to authorize and empower any inspector, water bailiff, conservator, constable, or police officer, to enter such premises for the purposes of detecting such offence, or such concealed fish, at such time or times, in the day or night, as in such warrant may be mentioned, and to seize all illegal engines, or any salmon illegally taken, that may be found on such premises; provided that no such warrant shall continue in force for more than one week from the date thereof.

Legal Proceedings.

35. **Procedure and Recovery of Penalties.** All penalties imposed by this Act, and all costs or expenses by this Act directed to be recovered in a summary manner, may be recovered, within six months after the commission of the offence, before two Justices, in manner directed by an Act passed in the eleventh and twelfth years of the

reign of her present Majesty Queen Victoria, chapter forty-tlu-ee, intituled An Act to facilitate the Performance of the Duties of the Justices of the Peace out of Sessions within England and Wales with respect to Summary Convictions and Orders, or of any Act amending the same; and all monies received in respect of penalties recovered under the Act shall be paid as follows; that is to say,

Such portion not exceeding one half, as the Court may think fit, to the person on whose complaint the penalty is recovered, and the remainder in manner directed by the said Act of eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of her present Majesty Victoria, chapter lbrty-three; and all forfeitures shall be disposed of as the Court may direct, and the proceeds, if any, shall be applied in manner in which the monies received in respect of penalties are hereby directed to be applied.

36. Offences on Rivers Dividing Counties. â Where any offence under this Act is committed in or upon any waters foituing the boundary between any two counties, districts of quarter sessions or petty sessions, such offence may be prosecuted before any Justice or Justices of the Peace in either of such counties or districts.

37. Offences on Sea-Coast. â Any offence committed imder this Act, on the sea-coast or at sea, beyond the ordinaiy jurisdiction of any Justice of the Peace, shall be deemed to have been committed within the body of any county abutting on such sea-coast, or adjoining such sea, and may be tried and punished accordingly.

38. Savinrj Clause for Dredging. â Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice the legal right of any conservators, directors, commissioners, undertakers, persons, or body of persons, corporate or unmcor-porate, to dredge, scour, cleanse, or improve any navigable river, canal, or other inland navigation.

Repeal of Acts.

39. Repeal of A cts. â From and after the commencement of this Act, there shall be hereby repealed the several Acts and parts of Acts set forth in the schedule hereto, to the extent to which such Acts or parts of Acts are therein expressed to be repealed: provided that such repeal shall not affectâ 1. Any security duly given before this Act comes into operation. 2 Anything duly done before this Act comes hito operation.

3. Any lialiility accming before this Act comes into operation.

4. Any penalty, forfeiture, or other punishment incurred or to be incun-ed in respect of any offence committed before this Act comes into operation.

5. The institution of any legal proceeding or other remedy for ascertaining, enforcing, or recovering any such liability, peualtj", forfeiture, or punishment as aforesaid.

REFERENCE TO ACT.

TITLE OF ACT.

EXTENT OP REPEAL.

30 Car. II. c. 9.

4 Ann, c. 21.

9 Ann, c. 26.

1 Geo. I. stat. c. 18.

23 Geo. II. c. 26.

33 Geo. II. c. 27.

An Act for the lietter preservation of fishing in tiie river of Severn.

An Act for the increase and better preservation of salmon and other fish in the rivers within the counties of Southampton and "Wiltshire.

An Act for the better preservation and improvement of fishery within the river of Thames, and for regulating and governing the Company of Fishermen of the river.

A new Act for the better preventing fresh fish taken by foreigners being imported into, this kingdom, and for the preservation of the fry of fish, and for the giving leave to import lobsters and turbot in foreign bottoms, and for the better preservation of salmon within several rivers in that part of this kingdom called England.

An Act to continue several laws, &c. and also to amend so much of an Act made in the first year of the reign of King George the First as relates to the better preservation of salmon in the river Ribble.

An Act to repeal so much of an Act passed in the twenty-ninth year of his present Majesty's reign concerning a free market for fish at Westminster as requires fishermen to enter their fishing vessels

The whole Act.

The whole Act.

The second section of the Act.

Sect. 11 to 16, inclusive.

Sects. 7, 8, 9.

Sect. 13.

18 Geo. III. c. 33.

37 Geo. III. c. 95.

18 Geo. III. 0.43.

6 & 7 Vict. c. 33.

at the office of the Searcher of the Customs at Gravesend, and to regulate the sale of fish at the first hand in the fish markets in London and Westminster, and to prevent salesmen of fish buying fish to sell again on their own account, and to allow biet and tui-bot, brill and pear, although under the respective dimensions mentioned in a former Act, to be imported and sold, and to punish any persons who shall take or sell any spawn, brood, or fry of fish, unsaleable fish, or fish out of season, or smelts under the size of five inches, and for other purposes.

An Act for the better preservation of fish, and regulating the fisheries in the rivers Severn and Wye.

An Act to amend two Acts made in the fourth year of the reign of Queen Anne and the first year of the reign of King George the First, for the preservation of salmon and other fish in the rivers within the counties of Southampton and Wilts.

An Act for preventing the destruction of the breed of salmon and fish of salmon kind in the rivers of England.

An Act to repeal so much of an Act of the first year of King George the First as limits the

In so far as it relates to salmon.

In so far as it relates to salmon.

The whole Act.

The whole Act.

Private Acts RELATIVE to Salmon Fisheries.

REFERENCE TO ACT.

RIVERS AFFECTED.

EXTENT OF BEPEIAI 43 Geo. III. c. 61.

44 Geo. III. c. 45.

Teign, Dart, and Plym, Devon. Rivers flowing into the Solway Firth.

45 Geo. III. c. 33.

46 Geo. III. c. 19.

49 Geo. III. c. 2.

5 6 Vict. c. 63. 2122 Vict. c. 141.

Carmarthenshire rivers. Rivers running into Milford harbour. Lord Lonsdale's fisheries in

Derwent. Tyne. Tees.

The whole Act.

The whole Act, except in so far as it relates to Scotland, and to fish other than salmon in England.

The whole Act.

In so far as it relates to salmon.

The whole Act.

The whole Act.

So much of sects. 63 64 as relates to the making of bye-laws for the regulation of salmon fisheries.

SALMON EXPORTATION ACT, 26 VICT. C. 10. 20 April, 1863.

WHEREAS the sale of salmon within the United Kingdom is prohibited at various times; that is to say, if caught in England within the limits of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, is prohibited between the third day of September and the second day of February; if caught in any fishery district in Ireland is prohibited during such time as the capture of salmon is prohibited in that district; if caught in Scotland within the limits of "The Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862," 25 26 Vict. c. 97, is prohibited between the commencement of the latest and the termination of the earliest annual close time fixed for any district; if caught in the river Tweed, as defined by "The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859," 22 23 Vict. c. 100, is prohibited between the fourteenth day of September and the fifteenth day of February: And whereas the capture or possession of foul or unseasonable salmon within the limits of the United Kingdom is prohibited at all times: And whereas the provisions of the said acts are evaded by the exportation for sale in France and other foreign countries of salmon that cannot legally be sold within the limits of the United Kingdom: be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:â 1. Short Title.â This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1863."

2. "Parts beyond Seas" defined. â No part of the United Kingdom, however situated with regard to any other part, shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to be parts beyond seas.

3. Export of unclean or unseasonable Salmon, or Salmon caught at certain Times. â No unclean or unseasonable salmon, and no salmon caught during the time at which

the sale of salmon is prohibited in the district where it is caught, shall be exported or entered for exportation from any part of the United Kingdom to parts beyond seas.

All salmon exported or entered for exportation in contravention of this section shall be forfeited, and the person exporting or entering the same for exportation shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding five pounds in respect of each salmon so exported or entered for exportation.

The burden of proving that any salmon entered for exportation from any part of the United Kingdom to parts beyond seas between the third day of September and the second day of February following is not so entered in contravention of this Act shall lie on the person entering the same for exportation.

4. Recovery of Penalties. — All penalties under this Act may be recovered in England, except within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, as penalties under the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861; in Ireland as penalties under the Act passed in the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and six, intitled An Act to regulate the Irish Fisheries; in Scotland, except within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, as penalties under the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862; and within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, in manner prescribed by "The Tweed Fisheries Act, 1857."

An Act to regulate and amend the Law respecting the Salmon Fisheries of Scotland.
7th August, 1862.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Acts relating to the salmon fisheries in Scotland should be amended, and that further provision should be made for the regulation of fisheries, the removal of obstructions, and the prevention of illegal fishing: be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: 1. Short Title.—This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862."

2. Interpretation of Terms.—The following words and expressions in this Act shall have the meanings hereby assigned to them, unless such meanings be repugnant to or inconsistent with the context:

"Commissioners" shall mean the commissioners appointed and acting under the authority of this Act for the time being: "Clerk" shall mean the clerk to the board appointed by any district board: "Sheriff" shall mean the Sheriff of the county in Scotland of

which he is Sheriff, and shall include sheriff's substitute: "Justice" or "Justices" shall mean any Justice or Justices of the Peace acting for the county, city, or burgh where the matter requiring the cognizance of such Justice or Justices shall arise: "Secretary of State" shall mean one of Her Majesty's Principal

Secretaries of State:

"Proprietor" or "Proprietors" shall mean and include any person, company, or corporation who is the proprietor of a salmon fishery, or who receives or is entitled to receive the rents of such fishery on his or their own account, or as trustee, guardian, or factor for any person, company, or corporation, and shall also include Her Majesty in right of her crown:

"Bye-law" and "Bye-laws" shall include all rules, orders, and regulations made by the Commissioners under the authority of this Act:

"Salmon" shall mean and include salmon, grilse, sea trout, bull trout, smolts, parr, and other migratory fish of the salmon kind:

"Fisheries " and " Fishery" shall mean salmon fisheries and a salmon fishery in any river or estuary or in the sea:

"River " shall include tributaries and any lake from or through which any river flows:

"Valuation Roll" shall mean the valuation roll in force for the time for any county, and each of the royal bms therein, made up under the authority of-, the public general Act Seventeenth and Eighteenth Victoria, chapter ninety-one, or any other Act relating to the valuation of lands and heritages in Scotland which may be in force for the time.

3. Commencement of Act â The enactments and provisions of this Act with respect to the appointment, powers, and duties of the Commissioners, and the election, powers, and duties of district boards, shall come into operation and take effect from and after the passing of this Act, and all the other enactments and provisions of this Act shall come into operation and take effect from and after the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

4. Each River and Estuary, and the Sea-coasts adjoining, to be a District. â Each river in Scotland flowing into the sea, and every tributary stream or lake flowing into or connected with such river, and the mouth or estuary of such river, and the sea-coasts adjoining thereto, divided into such portions as may be fixed and defined by the Commissioners under the authority of this Act, shall form a district for the purposes of this Act.

5. Commissioners to be appointed by Secretary of State. â It shall be lawful for the Secretary of State to appoint three Commissioners for the purposes of this Act, who shall be paid at such rate, not exceeding three pounds per day each, as the Commissioner of the Treasury may direct, the whole amount to be received by each Commissioner not exceeding three hundred and fifty pounds per annum, over and above such travelling expenses as the Commissioners of the Treasury may sanction: provided that the duration of the office of such Commissioners shall in no case extend beyond three years.

6. Duties of Commissioners â The Commissioners shall have the powers and perform the duties hereinafter specified; that is to say, (1.) To fix and define, for the purposes of this Act and the other Acts relating to salmon and salmon fisheries in Scotland, the natural limits which divide each river in Scotland (including the estuary thereof) from the sea, in so far as the same may not be already fixed by statute or by judicial decision: (2.) To fix, for the purposes of this Act, the limits of the Solway Firth, having regard to an Act passed in the forty-fourth year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Third, chapter forty-five: (3.) To fix, for the purposes of this Act, the limits of every district, and the portions of the sea-coast adjoining to the mouth or estuary of any river to be included in such district: (4.) To fix, for the purposes of this Act, a point on each river (including the estuary thereof) below which the proprietors of fisheries shall be lower proprietors, and above which the proprietors of fisheries shall be upper proprietors: (5.) To determine, subject to the provisions of this Act, at what dates the annual close time for every district shall commence

and terminate, and at what periods subsequent to the commencement and prior to the termination of the annual close time it shall be lawful to fish for and take salmon with the rod and line: provided that the number of days during which such annual close time shall continue shall be the same as regards every district: (6.) To make general regulations with respect to the following matters; viz. The due observance of the weekly close time: The construction and use of cruives: The construction and alteration of mill-dams, or lades, or water-wheels, so as to afford a reasonable means for the passage of salmon: The meshes of nets (so that they shall not intercept smolts or salmon fry): Obstructions in rivers or estuaries to the passage of salmon:

Provided that such regulations shall not interfere with any rights held at the time of the passing of this Act under royal grant or charter, or possessed for time immemorial.

7. Annual and Weekly Close Time. â The annual close time for every district shall continue for one hundred and sixty-eight days; and the weekly close time, except for rod and line, shall continue from the hour of six of the clock on Saturday night to the hour of six of the clock on Monday morning; but the Commissioners shall have power, on the application of the District Board, or of any two proprietors of fisheries in any district, to vary the period at which the weekly close time shall commence in any district, or any part thereof, in so far as they may think reasonable or expedient: provided that such weekly close time shall in no case be less than thirty-six hours.

8. Application of Annual Close Time. â The annual close time shall be applicable to every mode of fishing for or taking salmon in any river, lake, or estuary, or in the sea, except by means of the rod and line for the periods in each district to be fixed by the Commissioners subsequent to the commencement and prior to the termination of the annual close time during which it shall be lawful to fish for and take salmon by means of the rod and line.

9. Present Annual Close Times to subsist until altered. â In regard to any river and estuary which are regulated by any local Act relating thereto the annual close time fixed by such Act, and in regard to all other rivers, estuaries, and sea-coasts in Scotland the annual close time fixed by the public general Act ninthly George the Fourth, chapter thirty-nine, shall respectively be applicable until the annual close time with respect to any such river, estuary, or sea-coast shall be otherwise determined by any bye-law made by the Commissioners under the authority of this Act.

10. Fishing illegal where prohibited by existing Acts. â It shall not be lawful to fish for or take salmon at any place or by any mode prohibited by any statute relating to salmon or salmon fisheries in Scotland subsisting and in force at the date of the passing of this Act; and nothing contained in this Act or in any bye-law made by the Commissioners shall render legal any mode of fishing which was or would have been illegal at the date of the passing of this Act.

11. Miscellaneous Offences. â Every person who commits any of the following offences shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and to a further penalty not exceeding two pounds for every salmon taken or killed contrary to the provisions of this Act, or of any bye-law made by the Commissioners under the authority of this Act; and shall, in addition to such penalties, at the discretion of the magistrate, forfeit every boat, net, rod, line, or other article which has been or

may be used in fishing for or taking salmon, and which is found in the possession of such person at the time of the committing such offence; that is to say,

Every person who fishes for or takes salmon during the annual close time by any means other than the rod and line: Every person who fishes for or takes salmon, except during Saturday or Monday, by rod and line, during the weekly close time, or acts in breach or contravention of any bye-law made by the Commissioners in regard thereto: Every person who fishes for or takes salmon during the annual close time by means of the rod and line at a period not sanctioned by the Commissioners: Every person who fishes for salmon with a net having a mesh contrary to any bye-law of the Commissioners: Every person who obstructs or impedes the passage of salmon contrary to any bye-law of the Commissioners: Every person who sells or exposes for sale fresh salmon taken within the limits of this Act during the period between the commencement of the latest and the termination of the earliest annual close time which may have been fixed for any district; but the burden of proving that salmon so sold or exposed by any person for sale have been caught beyond the limits of this Act shall lie on the person selling or exposing the same for sale: Every person who takes or has in his possession any foul or unseasonable salmon: Every person who uses or has in his possession any light for the purpose and with the intention of taking salmon: Every person who sets a net or any other engine for capture of salmon when the fish show themselves when leaping at or trying to ascend any fall or other impediment: Every person who wilfully takes or destroys or injures or obstructs the passage of the young of salmon, or disturbs any spawning bed, or any bank or shallow on which the spawn of salmon may be deposited; but this provision shall not apply to acts done for the purpose of the artificial propagation of salmon or for other scientific purposes, or in the course of the exercise of rights of property in the bed of any stream: provided also, that the district board may, with the consent of all the proprietors of salmon fisheries in any river or estuary, adopt such means as they think fit for preventing the ingress of salmon into narrow streams or tributaries in which they or the spawning beds are, from the nature of the channel, liable to be destroyed, but always so that no water rights used or enjoyed for the purposes of manufactures or agricultural purposes or drainage shall be interfered with thereby.

12. Using Salmon Roe. — Every person who uses salmon roe for the purpose of fishing, or has in his possession any salmon roe for sale or for the purpose of fishing, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds, and shall forfeit any salmon roe found in his possession.

13. Poisoning Rivers. — Every person who causes or knowingly permits to flow, or puts or knowingly permits to be put, into any river containing salmon, any liquid or solid matter poisonous or deleterious to salmon, or who shall discharge into any river sawdust to an extent injurious to any salmon fishery, shall be liable to the following penalties: (that is to say,)

For the first offence a penalty not exceeding five pounds:

For the second offence a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding two pounds for every day during which such offence is continued: For the third or any subsequent offence a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day during which such offence

is continued: But no person shall be subject to the foregoing penalties for any act done in the exercise of any right to which he is by law entitled, if he prove to the satisfaction of the Court before whom he is tried that he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to dispose of or to render harmless the liquid or solid matter so permitted to flow or to be put into waters; but nothing herem contained shall prevent any person from acquiring a legal right in cases where he would have acquired it if this Act had not passed, or exempt any person from any punishment to which he would otherwise be subject, or legalize any act or defuiit that would but for this Act be contrary to law.

14. Commissioners to Visit and Report on Rivers and Estuaries. â The Commissioners shall visit and report on the several rivers and estuaries and salmon fisheries in Scotland, after notice duly given by special advertisement in some newspaper of general circulation in the district, not less than ten days before any such visitation, to the proprietois of salmon fishings on each of such rivers or estuaries, of their intention so to visit and report.

15. Commissioners to make Bye-laws on Matters specified. â The Commissioners shall, on or before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, fix and determine by bye-laws the matters specified in the third and fourth sub-divisions of the sixth section of this Act; and a copy of such bye-laws applicable to each district shall be, prior to the said date, transmitted by post to the sheriff clerk of each county, in so far as the same may relate to a district or part of a district situate therein; and the sherifi" clerk shall, on receipt of such copy, give notice of such bye-laws by advertisement inserted once for each of two successive weeks in some newspaper published in such county, or, if no newspaper be pul)lished therein, in some newspaper published in a county adjoining thereto; and every person whose interests may be aff"ected by any such bye-laws may state to the Secretary of State any objections to any such bye-law; and the Secretary of State shall, after one month after the date of such bye-laws, approve or alter or disapprove of the same; and every such bye-law, when approved of or altered by the Secretary of State, shall be pulished in the Edinburgh Gazette, and in such further mode as the Secretary of State may direct, and on being so published shall be legal and binding on all concerned: provided that in the case of such districts in which by reason of their inconsiderable size it may seem to the Commissioners unnecessary to determine such matters, they may defer doing so until required by more than six proprietors of fisheries within the same, after the limits of such district have been defined, as hereinafter provided, and shall proceed, in other respects, as above provided.

16. Bye-laws on other Matters. â The Commissioners shall, on or before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, determine the other matters specified in the sixth section of this Act, by bye-laws under their hands, or the hands of any two of them, and shall report the same to the Secretary of State; provided that previously to making such bye-laws they shall communicate the same to the district board, and afford the hoard reason)le opportunity of making any representation to the Commissioners respecting the same; and a copy of such bye-laws shall be transmitted to the sheriff' clerk of each comity, in so far as the sam. e may relate to any district situated therein; and the sheriff" clerk shall, on the receipt of such copy, give notice

of such bye-laws by advertisement inserted once for each of two successive weeks in some newspaper published in such county, or, if no newspaper be published therein, in some newspaper published in a county adjoining thereto; and every person whose interests may be affected by any such bye-laws may state to the Secretary of State any objections to any such bye-law; and the Secretary of State shall, after two months and within four months after the date of such byelaws, approve or alter or disapprove of the same; and every such bye-law, when approved of or altered by the Secretary of State, shall be published in the Edinburgh Gazette, and in such further mode as the Secretary of State may direct, and on being so published shall be legal and binding on all concerned.

17. Evidence taken by Commissioners. â The Commissioners, in execution of this Act, shall take such evidence as they may find to be necessary, and in the event of witnesses refusing to attend and give evidence, or to allow access to documents, they may apply to the sheriff of the county for a warrant to cite witnesses and havers, and the sheriff is hereby authorized to grant the same.

18. Election of District Boards. â Within three months after any bye-law constituting the district shall have been published the sheriff shall direct the sheriff clerk to make up a roll of the upper proprietors and also a roll of the lower proprietors in each district; and the qualification of an upper proprietor shall be the property of a fishery entered in the valuation roll as of the yearly rent or yearly value of 20l. or upwards, or, if such fishery be not valued on the valuation roll, of half a mile of frontage to the river, with a right of salmon fishing, and the qualification of a lower proprietor shall be the property of a fishery entered in the valuation roll as of the yearly rent or yearly value of twenty pounds or upwards; and the sheriff shall have power to decide annually any question arising on any claim to such qualification; and the sheriff shall thereafter direct the sheriff clerk to call a meeting of the upper proprietors, and also a meeting of the lower proprietors, at such times and places as he shall direct; and notice of such meeting shall be given as hereinbefore provided with respect to the publication of bye laws made by the Commissioners; and the upper proprietors and the lower proprietors present at such separate meetings respectively shall elect not more than three of their number to be members of the district board, every proprietor of a fishery valued at more than five hundred pounds on the valuation roll having two votes at such election, and an additional vote for every five hundred pounds of rental, but not more than four votes in all; and the members so elected with the proprietor having the largest annual value entered in the valuation roll as the yearly rent or yearly value of fisheries in such district shall constitute the district board; and the last-mentioned proprietor shall be the chairman of the board, and have a deliberative as well as a casting vote; and the election of such board shall be notified by the chairman of such respective meetings to the sheriff's clerk within seven days from the date of the same, and the sheriff shall thereafter summon the first meeting of such board for such day and such place as he may fix: provided always, that if any river be situated in two or more counties, the notices above provided shall be given and such meetings shall be called in such manner as the sheriffs of such counties jointly shall direct.

19. Constitution of the Board where Proprietors are less than Three. â If in any district the upper proprietors or the lower proprietors shall be fewer in number than

three, the board shall consist of an equal number, elected as aforesaid, along with the proprietor having the largest valuation, who shall also be chairman of the board, as above provided; and if such last-mentioned proprietor be the sole upper or the sole lower proprietor, he shall have two votes on the board; and if there shall be only one proprietor in any district such proprietor shall have and may exercise all the powers by this Act conferred on the district board.

20. Voting by Lqnty. â It shall be lawful for the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, or either of them, in cases where Her Majesty in right of her Crown is proprietor of any fishery, and for any corporation or company, being the proprietors of any fishery, or for any proprietor of a fishery, respectively, fi'om time to time to nominate and appoint, by any writing under his or their hand or seal, any person as the mandatory of such Commissioners, corporation, company, or proprietor to attend, act, and vote at any meeting of proprietors imder this Act; and every such nomination and appointment shall subsist until recalled by the said Commissioners or either of them, or by the coi-poration or company or proprietor making the same.

21. Payment to Sheriff Clerk in connexion with Elections. â All ex-)enses incurred by the sheriff clerk in making up the roll of proprietors, and in calling and attending the meetings for the election of the district board, with such reasonable renmmneration for his time and trouble as shall be fixed by the sheriff", shall be paid to the sheriff clerk by the district board out of the assessments to be levied under the authority of this Act.

22. Powers and Duties of District Boardsâ The district board may sue or be sued in the name of their clerk, and if there be more than six members three members shall form a quonmi, and if there be fewer than six members two shall form a quonim, and they shall keep regular books and accounts, and shall hold their first meeting within ten days after the first election under this Act at a time and place to be fixed at the meetings of proprietors at which such election took place, or in cases (1) See an amendment to this section, 26 27 Vict. c. 50, Â 2, post.

where such election is not necessary the first meeting shall take place at a time to be fixed liy a majority of the ijroprietors, and notice of such meeting sllial lie given as herein)lefore provided with respect to the publication of hye-laws to be made l)y tiie Conuuissoners; and the district board shall liave power, sul)ject to the provisions of this Act and the bye-laws made by the Commissioners, to make and alter from time to time regulations for tire preservation of the fisieries in the district, and from time to time to appoint a clerk, and such number of constables, water bailiff's, watchers, and other officers as they think fit, to fix and prescribe the duties of all persons appointed by them, and to remove such i)ersons, and appoint other pereons in their stead: and they may combine with any other district board for the purpose of this Act, and to maintain a common staff' of officers for the protection and)reservation of the fisieries of more tlian one district, and may agi-ee Avitli the police committee of any county for the purpose of paying additional constables fur the better protection of the fisheries in their district: provided that all such regidations shall, before taking effect, be reported to and approved by the Secretary of State, and shall not interfere with any vested right of property, and shall not authorize any encroachment or trespass on private property.

23. Assessments imposed by District Boards. â The district board shall have power to impose an assessment for the purposes of this Act, to be called the Fisheries Assessment, on the several fisheries in each district, according to the yearly rent or yearly value of such fisheries as entered in the valuation roll; and every proprietor of a fishery which is not valued on the valuation roll, and who shall claim right to vote in the election of members of the district board, shall be held to be a proprietor of a fishery of the value of twenty pounds, and shall be assessed accordingly; and such fishery assessments may be imposed, collected, and recovered by the district board in the same manner as police assessments may be imposed, collected, and recovered by the Commissioners of Supply under the authority of the public general Act, twentieth and twenty-first Victoria, chapter seventy-two; and for the purpose of imposing, collecting, and recovering such fishery assessments the district board shall have and may exercise all the powers conferred by the said Act on Commissioners of Supply for imposing, collecting, and recovering the assessments leviable under the same.

24. Future Elections of District Boards. â Each district board shall continue in office for three years, and members thereof shall be eligible for re-election, and vacancies occurring during such period shall be filled up by the board until the next meeting of proprietors, who shall then fill up the same; and meetings of the upper and lower proprietors respectively for the purpose of each triennial election of not more than three upper proprietors and three lower proprietors respectively shall be called by the clerk, who shall give notice of such meetings by advertisement as hereinbefore provided with respect to the publication of bye-laws made by the Commissioners; and such meetings shall at the same time take such steps as they shall think proper for auditing and attesting the accounts of the district board for the preceding three years.

25. Breach of Bye-laws and Regulations. â It shall be lawful for the district board, by any bye-law or regulation to be made by them and approved of by the Secretary of State as hereinbefore provided, to enact that any person committing any breach or contravention of such bye-law or regulation shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding two pounds; and such penalty may be sued for and recovered in the same manner as penalties incurred and imposed under the provisions of this Act.

26. Forfeited Articles may be Seized. â Any net, rod, line, or other article directed to be forfeited under this Act may be seized by any constable, water bailiff, watcher, or other officer appointed by the district board, and the Sheriff or Justice may either order the same to be destroyed or to be sold, and the proceeds of such sale to be paid to the clerk on behalf of the district board.

27. Three or more Persons illegally Fishing at Night. â If three or more persons acting in concert, or being together or in company, shall at any time between the expiration of the first hour after sunset on any day and the beginning of the last hour before sunrise on the following morning enter or be found upon any ground adjacent or near to any river or estuary or the sea, or in or upon any river or estuary or the sea, with intent illegally to take or kill salmon, or having in his or their possession any net, rod, spear, light, or other instrument used for taking salmon with such intent as aforesaid, or shall illegally take or kill, or attempt to take or kill or aid or assist in killing or taking salmon, every such person shall be guilty in Scotland of a criminal

offence, and in England within the limits of the " Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act" of a misdemeanor, and shall for every such offence be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding three months, as the Sheriff or Justices before whom such persons or any of them are tried and convicted may determine; and if such fine be not paid immediately on conviction, the offender so failhig to)ay shall be sentenced to imprisonment for such period, not exceeding three months, as the Sheriff or Justices may adjudge, unless such fine shall be sooner paid.

28. Procedure and Recovery of Penalties. â All offences under this

Act may be prosecuted and all penalties incurred under this Act Jiiay be recovered before any Sheritfor any two Justices acting together ana having jurisdiction in the place where the offence was committed, at the instance of the clerk of any district board or of any other person; and it shall be lawful for the Sheriff or Justices to whom any petition or complaint is presented to proceed in a summary form, and to grant warrant for bringing the persons complained against before him or them, and on proof on oath by one or more credil)le witness or witnesses or confession of tie person accused, or other legal evidence, forthwith to determine and give judgment in such complaint, without any written pleadings or record of evidence, other than a record of the charge and of the judgment pronounced thereon, and to gi-ant warrant for the recovery of all penalties and expenses decerned, by poinding, and imprisonment for any period not exceeding six months; and any person who shall think himself aggrieved by any judgment of the Sheriff or Justices pronounced in any complaint or prosecution under this Act may appeal to the Coint of Justiciary at their next circuit court, or where there is no circuit comt to the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, in the manner and under the rules, limitations, conditions, and restrictions contained in the Act passed in the twentieth year of the reign of His Majesty King Gcorje the Second, chapter forty-three, for taking away and abolishing heritable jurisdictions in Scotland, with this variation, that such person shall, in place of finding caution in the terms prescricilid by the said Act, be bound to find caution to pay the penalty and expenses awarded against him by the judgment appealed from, in the event of such appeal being dismissed, together with any additional expenses that shall be awarded by the Circuit Court or Court of Justiciary on dismissing such appeal; and it shall not be competent to appeal from or bring the judgments of any Sheriff or Justices acting under this Act under review by advocacy or in any other way than as herein provided.

29. Enforcement of Regulations and Bye-lawst. â In the event of any person refusing or neglecting to obey any byc-law made by tie Commissioners, or any regulation made by the district board, the clerk may apply to the Sheriffl' by summary petition in ordinary form, praying to have such person ordained to obey the same, and the Sheriff shall take such proceedings and make such orders thereupon as he shau think just.

30. Expenses of Proceedings.â In giving judgment on any application or complaint under this Act the Sheriff or Justices may find the person complained against liable in expenses, and may decern for payment of the same.

31. Recovery of Penalties and Expenses. â All penalties and expenses inciuted under this Act, or under any bye-law or regulation made under the authority thereof, may be recovered by ordinary action or in the Small Debt Court of the Sheriff.

32. Payment and Application of Penalties. â The penalties incurred under this Act shall in all prosecutions at the instance of the clerk of any district board be payable to and recoverable by such clerk, and shall in all other cases be paid and applied in such manner as the Sheriff or Justices may direct; and all penalties and expenses received by the clerk, and the proceeds of the sale of any articles seized and directed to be sold as before provided, shall be applied by the district board towards defraying the expenses incurred by them in carrying into execution the provisions of this Act.

33. Certain Provisions of English Act, 24 fc 25 Vict. c. 109, applied to Solway Firth. â From and after the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five the provisions of the said Act, intituled An Act to amend the Laws relating to Fisheries of Salmon in England, shall extend and apply to salmon fisheries in the waters and on the shores of the Solway Firth situate in Scotland, as the same may be fixed by authority of this Act, and to the rivers flowing into the same, in so far as such provisions relate to the use of fixed engines for the taking of salmon: provided that all offences against such provisions shall be prosecuted and punished as directed by this Act.

34. This Act not to apply to Tweed.â 'No part of this Act, with the exception of the tenth, twelfth, and twenty-seventh clauses, shall ap)ly to the river Tweed, or to any fisheries in the said river or the mouth or entrance thereof, as defined by " The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859;" and any penalties incurred under the said tenth, twelfth, and twenty-seventh clauses of this Act shall, so far as concerns tlie river Tweed, be recoverable in manner prescribed by the Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1857, which Act, and the Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859, shall remam in full force and effect, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

An Act to amend the Salmon Fisheries Scotland) Act. VMhjuli, 1863.

WHEREAS a, n Act was passed in tlie twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth years of the reign of Her present JNlajesty, intituled An Act to refjulate and amend the Laio respecting the Salmon Fisheries of Scotland; and in the sixteenth section thereof it is enacted, that "the Commissioners shall on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four," determine certain matters by bye-laws, and report the same to the Secretary of State; and it is expedient that the time so limited should be extended, and that the said Act should be amended: be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and ly the authority of the same, as follows: 1. Extension of Time for making, Â; c. Bye-lates. â The said Commissioners shall determine the said matters specified in the said sixteenth section, by bye-laws under their hands, or the hands of any two of them, and shall report the same to the Secretary of State on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundi-cd and sixty-five.

2. Notice to be given for calling First Meeting of District Boards. â The provision in the eighteenth section of the recited Act, that " the sherift' shall thereafter summon the first meeting of such l)oard for such day and such place as he may fix" is hereby

repealed; and on the time and place of the first meeting of the district board being fixed as provided by the twenty-second section of the recited Act, and intimated to the sheriff clerk, he shall give notice of such meeting as therein provided; and such first meeting may be held at any time within twenty-one days after the first election of the district board under the recited Act, anything therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. As to reading of Sect. 33 of 25 to 26 Vict. c. 97.â The thirty-third section of the recited Act shall be read and construed as if the words " public general Act, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth Victoria, chapter one hundred and nine," had been inserted therein instead of the words " said Act."

4. Power to Commissioners to extend the Mouth of the Tweed. â It shall be lawful for the said Commissioners, on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, by a bye-law under their hands, or the hands of any two of them, to be made, published, and approved in the manner provided in the fifteenth section of the recited Act, to extend the limits of the mouth or entrance of the river Tweed northwards from the limits thereof as defined in " The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859," along the sea coast and into the sea to such points and to such extent as they may fix; and from and after the publication of such bye-law in the Edinbrough Gazette, and in such further mode as the Secretary of State may direct, the enactments and provisions of " The Tweed Fisheries Act, 1857," (with the exception of the fifty-fifth and sixtieth sections), and of " The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859," and the tenth, twelfth, and twenty-seventh sections of the recited Act shall be applicable to and may be enforced within such extended limits in the same manner and to the same effect as if such extended limits had been included in the mouth or entrance of the river Tweed as defined in " The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859:" provided, that the rates or assessments to be levied on and in respect of the Fisheries beyond the limits of the mouth of the river Tweed, as defined in " The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859," and within the limits as extended under any such bye-law as aforesaid, shall not be applied in or towards the payment or discharge of any debts or obligations contracted by the Commissioners acting under " The Tweed Fisheries Act, 1857," previous to the passing of this Act.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to Fisheries in Ireland. 28th July, 1863.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provisions for carrying into effect the law relating to the salmon fisheries in Ireland.â Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:â

Preliminary.

1. Short Title. â This Act may be cited for all purposes as " The Salmon Fishery (Ireland) Act, 1863."

2. Application of Act. â This Act shall not apply to England or Scotland.

RELATIONS AS TO FIXED EXGINS.

3. Prohibition of Bag-nets in certain Places. â After the passing of this Act no bag-net shall be placed or allowed to continue in any river or the estuary of any river, as such river or estuary has been defined by the Commissioners of Fisheries or shall

be defined by the Commissioners under this Act, or within a distance of less than three statute miles from the mouth of any river as defined as aforesaid.

Any bag-net placed or continued in contravention of this section shall be deemed to be a common nuisance, and may be taken possession of or destroyed; and any bag-net so placed or continued and any salmon taken by such bag-net, shall be forfeited, and, in addition thereto, the owner of a bag-net placed or continued in contravention of this section shall, for each day of so placing or allowing the same to be continued, incur a penalty of not less than five pounds and not exceeding twenty pounds.

But no person shall incur any penalty under this section in respect of any bag-net if he removes the same within fourteen days after the passing of this Act: provided always, that no bag-net now legally existing shall be liable to be abated or removed, or be deemed illegal under this Act, by reason of its being within twelve miles of the mouth of a river in the whole of which, including all tributary rivers and lakes upon its course, the proprietor of such bag-net has the exclusive right of catching salmon.

4- Penalty on New Fixed Nets. â No fixed net that was not legally erected for catching salmon or trout during the open season of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two shall be placed or used for catching salmon or trout in any inland or tidal waters.

Any net placed or used in contravention of this section shall be deemed to be a common nuisance, and may be taken possession of or destroyed; and any net so placed or used, and any salmon taken by such net, shall be forfeited; and in addition thereto, the owner of a net placed or used in contravention of this section shall, for each day of so placing or using the same, incur a penalty of not less than five pounds, and not exceeding twenty pounds.

5. Commissioners to Inquire as to Fixed Nets. â Subject to such appeal as is hereinafter mentioned, the Special Commissioners appointed under this Act, hereinafter referred to as the Commissioners, shall abate and remove all fixed nets erected or used for catching salmon or trout in Ireland that are in their judgment injurious to navigation, and shall inquire into the legality of, and if satisfied of their illegality remove, all such other fixed nets erected or used as aforesaid as are in contravention of any Act of Parliament or law in force in Ireland.

6. Certificate as to certain Fixed Nets. â Where any fixed net, other than a bag-net prohibited by this Act, is in use at the time of the passing of this Act, and any person claims to have erected the same in pursuance of the Act of the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and six, the Commissioners may, on proof being given to their satisfaction that such fixed net has been erected in pursuance of the said provisions, certify to that effect, stating in the certificate the situation, size, and description of the net, and the person who has the right to erect the same, in pursuance of such last-mentioned provisions. A certificate given in pursuance of this notice shall be deemed to lie an order of the Commissioners, and to lie subject to appeal as such. If unappealed from, or as confirmed or amended on appeal, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence that the person therein named is the person specified in the said Act as entitled to exercise the right therein given, but it shall not render any net legal that would be otherwise illegal by reason of its

being injurious to navigation, a common nuisance to the public right of fishing, or otherwise in violation of common law or any Act of Parliament.

7. Commissioners to inquire as to Fishing Wears. â Subject to such appeal as is hereinafter mentioned, the Commissioners shall inquire into the legality of all fishing wears throughout Ireland, and shall remove such as are in contravention of any Act of Parliament or law in force in Ireland, with this qualification, that where a fishing wear is illegal only by reason of its not having a free gap, as required by law, this section shall not empower the Commissioners to remove such fishing wear, if an undertaking be entered into to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, by the owner or other person interested in such wear, to make a legal free gap therein within a time to be prescribed by the Commissioners, and a free gap is made accordingly.

8. Persons unlawfully keeping up a Fishing Wear. â If any person has unlawfully erected or kept up, or shall unlawfully erect or keep up, any fishing wear upon any river, and a notice shall be served in writing upon the proprietor or occupier of such wear, or his known agent, by the owner or occupier of any grounds on the banks of such river on which such wear has been or shall be erected, requiring him to prostrate or open the same within the space of thirty days from the service of such notice, if such proprietor or occupier of such wear shall not within that time abate or prostrate the same, he shall forfeit a sum of fifty pounds, together with costs of suit, to be recovered by action of debt in any of Her Majesty's Courts of Record, one moiety thereof to be to the use of the person who shall sue for the same, and the other to the use of the conservators of the district in which such wear has been or shall be unlawfully erected or kept up; and the said Court shall adjudge such wear to be abated at the expense of the defendant in such action: provided always, that nothing in this section contained shall restrict the powers by this Act given to the Commissioners.

9. Construction of Free Gaps. â In every fishing wear there shall be a free gap or opening in accordance with the regulations following, under the powers of this Act; (that is to say,) (1.) The free gap shall be situated in the deepest part of the stream: (2.) The sides of the gap shall be in a line with and parallel to the direction of the stream at the wear: (3.) The bottom of the gap shall be level with the natural bed of the stream above and below the gap: (4.) The width of the gap in its narrowest part shall be not less than one tenth part of the width of the stream: provided always that such gap shall not be required to be wider than fifty feet, and shall not in any case be narrower than three feet; and provided also, that no existing gap in any wear shall be reduced in width, or a gap of less width substituted in lieu thereof, or any alteration made therein so as to reduce the flow of water through such gap: Provided always that no person shall be entitled to any compensation by reason of the enforcing of any free gap in any wear, anything to the contrary in any Act notwithstanding.

10. Construction of Boxes and Cribs in Fishing Wears and Fishing Mill-dams. â The following rules shall be observed in relation to the construction of boxes and cribs in fishing wears and fishing mill-dams; (that is to say,) (1.) The upper surface of the sill shall be level with the bed of the river: (2.) The bairns or inscales of the heck or upstream side of the box or crib shall not be nearer each other than two inches, and shall be capable of being removed, and shall be placed perpendicularly; the boxes, cribs, or cruives shall not be built over, or in any other manner hidden from

public inspection. And the Owner of any fishing wear or fishing mill-dam that has attached thereto any box or crib in contravention of this Act shall bring the same into conformity with this Act within six months after the commencement of this Act; and he shall incur a penalty not less than five pounds and not exceeding twenty pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of six months during which he fails to comply with the provisions of this section; and any owner failing so to maintain the same shall incur a penalty not less than one pound and not exceeding five pounds for every day during which such failure continues.

11. *Weelchj Close Time in lieu of Free Gap.* â In any case where the breadth of the river where any chartered or patent fishing wear now exists shall not exceed forty feet, and it might be inexpedient to require a free gap to be made therein, the Commissioners may, if they think fit, instead thereof, direct by their order the extension of the weekly close time for a period of twenty-four hours.

12. *Enforcement of Free Gaps in Fishing Tiers.* â The following rules shall be observed for the purpose of securing efficient free gaps in fishing wears; (that is to say,) (1.) Where a wear is without a legal free gap at the time of the commencement of this Act, the owner of such wear shall within twelve months after the commencement of this Act make such a gap, and if he does not he shall incur a penalty not less than five pounds and not exceeding fifty pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of twelve months during which he does not make such gap: (2.) Where a free gap has been made in a wear, but the same is not maintained in accordance with this Act, the owner of such wear shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds a day for each day he is in default.

(3.) No alteration shall be made in the bed of any river in such manner as to reduce the flow of water through a free gap: if it is, the person making the same shall incur a penalty not less than five pounds and not exceeding fifty pounds, and a fine; her penalty of one pound a day until he restores the bed of the river to its original state.

(4.) No person shall place any obstruction, use any contrivance, or do any Act whereby fish may be scared, deterred, or in any way prevented from freely entering and passing up and down a free gap at all periods of the year, or shall use any nets or other engines within fifty yards above or below any free gap; and any person placing any obstruction, using any contrivance, net, or engine, or doing any act in contravention of the regulation lastly hereinbefore contained, shall incur a penalty not less than five pounds and not exceeding twenty pounds for the first offence, and not less than ten pounds and not exceeding fifty pounds for each subsequent offence.

13. *Abatement of Illegal Nets and Wears.* â Before removing any illegal fixed net or illegal fishing wear, the Commissioners shall take the same proceedings as to summoning the parties interested in such net or wear, and as to hearing such parties, and any evidence they may produce, as the Commissioners under the Salmon Fisheries Acts are thereby required to take where any parties complain of the erecting, maintaining, or using any fixed engine; and a summons issued by the Commissioners shall, in respect of the proceedings to be taken by the Commissioners, be deemed to be equivalent to a complaint made under the said section.

14. *Appeal from Decision of Special Commissioners.* â If any person feels aggrieved with any decision of the Commissioners (and for the purposes of an appeal

a dismissal of a complaint shall be deemed to be a decision), the person aggrieved may appeal as follows, and not in manner provided by the Salmon Fisheries Acts; (that is to say,) 1. The appeal shall be to the Court of Queen's Bench in Ireland.

2. The appeal shall be by special case stating the facts and the grounds for the decision.

3. The special case shall be settled by the Commissioners upon the application of the appellant to be made in writing within seven days after the delivery of the decision, and not afterwards.

4. The application for a case shall not be entertained by the Commissioners unless the appellant at the time of making the same enter into a recognizance before the said Commissioners or a Justice of the Peace, with or without sureties, and in such sum as the Commissioners or the Justice think fit, conditioned to prosecute without delay the appeal, and to submit to the judgment of the Court of Queen's Bench, and to pay such costs as may be awarded.

5. The special case shall be signed by the Commissioners, and shall be delivered to the appellant by the Commissioners on payment by him of such fees as are hereinafter mentioned.

6. On the receipt of the special case the appellant shall within three days serve a copy on the other party to the proceedings, and transmit by post or otherwise the original case to the proper officer of the Court of Queen's Bench in Ireland.

7. The fees to be charged in respect of the preparation of the special case shall be the same fees as are chargeable for the preparation of a special case by the Act passed in the session of the twentieth and twenty-first years of the reign of her present majesty, chapter forty-three, intituled An Act to improve the Administration of the Law, so far as respects Summary Proceedings before Justices of the Peace, and hereinafter referred to as "The Summary Jurisdiction Act."

8. The Commissioners may refuse to state a case when they are of opinion that the application is frivolous, but if they so refuse they shall, on the request of the appellant, give him a certificate stating the ground of their refusal, y. When a party gives in good timely notice of an appeal under this section, but omits through mistake to do some act necessary to perfect the appeal, the Appellate Court may permit an amendment on such terms as it thinks just.

10. After the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench has been given on a case stated as aforesaid, the Commissioners shall have the same powers to enforce that decision, when affirmed or amended, as they would have had to have enforced their original decision if it had not been appealed from.

11. Save as hereinbefore varied, the provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction Act as to the powers of the Superior Court, as to directing a special case to be stated, as to the enforcing of recognizances, and as to all other matters, shall apply to an appeal under this section, in the same manner as if the words "Justice or Justices" in the said Summary Jurisdiction Act included "the special Commissioners appointed under this Act."

12. Any Act required by this section to be done by the Commissioners may be done by two of them, of whom the barrister hereinafter mentioned shall be one.

13. The decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, in respect of any case brought before them under this section shall, unless the Court otherwise directs, be final.

15. Transfer of Powers to Netv Commissioners. â All powers, rights, privileges, and jurisdictions vested in or exercised by the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Inspecting Commissioners of Fisheries, or any of them, by any Act relating to salmon fisheries, with the exception of the powers relating to oysters and white sea fish, shall be transferred to and vest in the Commissioners appointed under this Act during their continuance in office, and may be exercised by them.

Miscellaneous.

16. Fixinrf with Nets near ii7?-caw.â Notwithstanding anything contained in the said Salmon Fisheries Acts, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons, although lawfully possessed of a several fishery for twenty years next liefore the passing of the Act of the session of the thirteenth and fourteentii years of the reign of Her present lajesty, chapter eigiity-eight, to use any box, crilib, cruivo, net, instmment, or device for taking fish (save and except rods and lines only), at or within fifty yards, either above or below a mill-dam, unless there is attached to such mill-dam a fish-pass of such form and dimensions as may bo approved of by the Commissioners, nor unless such fish-pass has con- stantly running through it such a flow of water as will enable salmon to pass up and down it; any person oflending against this clause shall for each offence incur a penalty of not less than five pounds, and not exceeding twenty pounds, recoverable by any one who wIU sue for the same.

17. Power to define Est wanes and Mouths of Rivers. â Notwithstanding anything contained in the Salmon Fisheries Acts, or any definition of the Commissioners actmg in pursuance of those Acts, the Commissioners mider this Act shall mark out, by reference to maps or otherwise, what are to be the boundaries of mouths of rivers and estuaries, and the boundaries between the tidal and freshwater portions of every river, for the purjposes of this Act and the said Salmon Fisheries Acts, with power where several streams flow into a common mouth or estuary to declare that the outlets of such streams form separate mouths or estuaries. The Commissioners may also define the point or points of mouths of rivers or estuaries from which distances are to be measm-ed under this Act and the Salmon Fisheries Acts.

18. Forfeiture of Boat in Illegal Fishing. â If it be proved to the satisfaction of the Justices that any boat, cot, or curragh, found on or near waters frequented by salmon or trout, has been used for the capture of salmon or trout during any part of the annual or weekly close time, the person or persons who shall be proved to have used such boat, cot, or curragh for the capture of salmon or trout during the annual or weekly close time, shall for the first offence be subject to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and for the second or any subsequent offence, in addition to the foregoing penalty, the boat, cot, or curragh so used may be seized and forfeited; but this section, so far as relates to the forfeiture of the boat, cot, or cm'ragh, shall not come into operation where a boat is used by some person other than the owner thereof, and the owner proves to the satisfaction of the Justices that it was so used without his knowledge or consent.

19. Meaning of Terms. â It is hereby declared, that for the purposes of the said Salmon Fisheries Acts, and of this Act, "jenkin" and "gravelling" are deemed to be

"salmon," and "spring tides" mean "ordinary spring tides." (See also sect. 44.) 20. **Weekly Close Season.** â There shall be repealed so much of the said Salmon Fisheries Acts as provides that it shall not be lawful to take or kill any salmon or trout between six of the clock on Saturday evening and six of the clock on Monday morning, or between the low waters next in point of time to those periods respectively, and the said Acts shall be construed as if it had been enacted therein that no salmon or trout shall be fished for or taken in any way, except by single rod and line, between six of the clock on Saturday morning and six of the clock on the succeeding day morning; and all penalties imposed by the said Salmon Fisheries Acts, and the provisions made for enforcing the prohibition contained in the said Acts and providing for the free passage of salmon and trout during the times therein in that behalf mentioned, shall apply accordingly, with this addition, that any net or other instrument, or the inscales or gates and rails of any crib, box, or cruive, used between the times aforesaid shall be forfeited, and also that when any salmon or trout is taken at any fishing weir during the weekly close season in contravention of this Act, and the said Salmon Fisheries Acts, or when any box, crib, or cruive is during the weekly close season left unopened or otherwise left not in conformity with the said Acts, the penalty in that behalf imposed by the said Acts shall be payable in respect of each box, crib, or cruive in the weir in which any fish is so illegally taken, or which is left as aforesaid unopened, or not in conformity with the said Acts.

21. **Alteration of Annual Close Time.** â There shall be repealed so much of the thirty-third section of the Act of the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and six, as provides that the annual close season, or period during which it shall not be lawful to take salmon, shall not comprise fewer than one hundred and twenty-four days in each year; and in lieu thereof be it enacted, that such annual close season or period during which it shall not be lawful to take salmon, shall not comprise fewer than one hundred and sixty-eight days in each year; and until an alteration is made by the Commissioners in pursuance of the powers given to them by the Salmon Fisheries Acts and this Act, there shall be added at the end of the close time now established for each fishery, such number of days, if any, as may be required to make the number of close days constituting the annual close time in that fishery amount to one hundred and sixty-eight days.

22. **Salmon or Trout Caught for Certain Purposes.** â Nothing in this Act contained shall apply to any person who shall catch or attempt to catch, or shall have in his possession, any salmon or trout for the purposes of artificial propagation or other scientific purposes; and nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice the legal right of any owner to take materials from any stream.

23. **Season for Angling with Single Rod and Line.** â Nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect angling with single rod and line, the close season for which shall be from the first day of November in each year to the first day of February in the year following.

24. **Use of Salmon Nets during certain Hours in Rivers.** â From and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful for any person to use any net, except a landing-net, for the capture of salmon or trout in the freshwater portion of any river, as defined by the Commissioners under this Act, between the hours of eight o'clock

in the evening and six o'clock in the morning, except so far as the same may have heretofore been used within the limits of a several fishery next above the tidal flow, and held under grant or charter, or by immemorial usage; and every person offending against the provisions of this section shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and to the forfeiture of all boats, nets, and gear used in such illegal fishing.

25. *Obstructive Free Passage of Salmon or Trout during Weekly Close Season.* â No person shall in any manner whatever scare, impede, or obstruct the free passage of salmon or trout during the weekly close season: and any person acting in contravention of this section, shall forfeit any fish taken by him, and any net or instrument used by him, and in addition thereto shall incur a penalty not less than two pounds, and not exceeding ten pounds; but this section shall not apply to any person who takes fish legally by the single rod and line during the weekly close season.

26. *Additional Licence Duties on Fixed Engines.* â The Salmon Fisheries Acts shall be construed as if in the schedule annexed to the Act of the eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter ninety-two, so far as relates to fixed engines, there had been inserted instead of the duties therein mentioned the duties following; (that is to say),

Bag-nets 10

Stake-nets, fly-nets, or stake-weirs (Scotland). 30

Head-weirs 6

For every box, crib, cruive, or drum-net in any weir for taking salmon or trout 10 and the boards of conservators shall not have authority to reduce or diminish the same, anything in the said Act or any other Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

27. *Magistrates Paying Duty to the Ex officio Members of Board.* â Magistrates paying licence duty, and being owners of land abutting on rivers or lakes in any district, may act and vote as ex officio members of any board of conservators elected for any such district.

28. *New Elections of Conservators.* â On the first Monday in the month of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four all existing boards of conservators shall cease, and new boards shall be elected.

29. *Residence or Qualification of Conservators.* â No person shall be eligible for the office of conservator in any electoral division in which he does not reside or possess real property.

30. *Use of Lifting Machines.* â Where a turline or similar hydraulic machine, which may be injurious to salmon or the young of salmon in their descent to the sea, is supplied from a river frequented by salmon, the person owning or using such machine shall, during the time in which such descent to the sea takes place, provide grating or other efficient means to prevent such salmon or young of salmon from passing into such machine, and in case such means be not provided such person shall forfeit a sum not exceeding fifty pounds, and also a sum not exceeding five pounds for each day during which such injury to the fry continues.

31. *Salmon-passes and Fish Ladders to be open to Inspection.* â All salmon-passes and fish ladders shall be at all times open to the inspection of the Commissioners and conservators of the district, and of any person duly authorized by them or any of them.

Appointment and Powers of Commissioners.

32. Appointment of Commissioners. â Her Majesty may by warrant under the royal sign manual appoint any number of persons not exceeding tln-ee, of whom one shall be an officer in the naval service of Her Majesty, and another a barrister of not less than seven years standing at the bar, to be Commissioners under tliis Act during Her Majesty's j)leasure, and upon every vacancy in the office of any Commissioner by deatli, resignation, or incapacity to act may appoint some other fit person to fill tlie vacancy: provided always, that in the case of a vaciincy iiy the death, resignation, or incapacity of any Commissioner being such officer or barrister, the person so to be appointed shall be of the same profession as the officer or barrister in whose place he shall be appointed.

33. Commissioners to have a Common Seal. â The Commissioners appointed under this Act shall be styled "The Special Commissioners for Irish Fisheries;" they shall cause to be made for tlieir commission such seal or seals as they may re(iuire; and any sunnons, order, warrant, or other instrument, or copy thereof, purporting to be sealed with the seal of the Connuissioners, and to be signed as hereinafter mentioned, shall be received in evidence without any further proof.

34. Commissioners not to ait in Parliament. â No Commissioner shall during his continuance in office be capable of leing elected or of sitting as a member of the House of Commons.

35. Acts of (he Commissioners. â All warrants for the removal of any illegal net or illegal wear shall be signed by two at least of the Commissioners, and all cases relating to the removal of such nets or wears shall be heard by all the Commissioners, but the opinions of two of them shall, in case of difference, decide any question; any other Acts authorized to be done by the Commissioners may be done by any one of them, and any summons under the seal of the Commissioners, and signed by any person delegated by them, shall be deemed to be sufficiently executed.

36. Salaries of Officers.â The Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury may from time to time fix such salaries as they may think fit for the Commissioners hereby appointed, and also appoint such additional officers, clerks, and servants, at such salaries as the said Commissioners of the Treasiuy may think proper and necessary, and from time to time dismiss such officers, clerks, and servants, and appoint others in their place.

37. Duration of Office of Commissioners.â The offices of the said Commissioners, and all powers, rights, and privileges pertaining thereto, shall continue in force for two years only, and from thenceforth until the end of the next session of Parliament.

38. Powers of Commissioners. â The Commissioners may examine any witnesses on oath; and with respect to the following matters, that is to say, (1.) Enforcing the attendance of witnesses, and the production of deeds, books, papers, and documents; (2.) The enforcing any order whatever made by them under any of the powers or authorities of this Act or the Salmon Fisheries Acts, shall in addition to any other powers conferred on them by this Act, have all such powers, riglits, and privileges as the Judges of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench in Ireland have for such or the like puqioses.

39. Penalty for False Siuearinr.â Every person who upon examination before the Commissioners, or any one of them, Avilfully gives false evidence, and every person

who wilfully swears, affirms, or declares falsely in any affidavit relating to any matter within the cognizance of the Commissioners, shall be liable to the pains and penalties of perjury.

40. Proceedings before Commissioners not to be Restrained by Injunction, &c. The Commissioners shall not be subject to be restrained in the execution of their powers under this Act, nor shall any person be restrained from making an application under this Act to the Commissioners, by order of any Court of Justice or by any other legal process, nor shall the Commissioners be required by writ of mandamus or any writ of a like nature to do any act or take any proceeding under this Act, nor shall proceedings before them be removable by certiorari or other writ of a like nature.

41. Proceedings not to abate by Death, &c. Proceedings before the Commissioners shall not abate or be suspended by any death or transmission or change of interest; but in any such case of death or transmission or change of interest it shall be lawful for the Commissioners, when they see fit, to require notices to be given to persons becoming interested, or to make any orders for continuing, suspending, or carrying on the proceedings, or otherwise in relation thereto, which to the Commissioners appears just.

42. Determination of Office of Special Commissioners. On the determination of the office of the Special Commissioners, all powers and duties transferred to, vested in, or imposed on them by this Act, shall be transferred to and vested in two permanent Inspectors of Fisheries, to be appointed by and to be subject to the control of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

PENALTIES, SAVING CLAUSES, ETC.

43. Courts may award Costs. It shall be lawful for the Court before which any indictment or information for any offence against this Act, or for any nuisance in tidal or inland waters, shall have been preferred, heard, or tried and determined, to order that the costs, charges, and expenses of and incident to such indictment or information, and the proceedings therein, and the preferring, hearing, or trial and determination thereof, shall follow the event of the same respectively, and be borne and paid by the party against whom the same shall have been determined, and that such costs, charges, and expenses shall be estimated, either as between party and party, or as between attorney and client, at the discretion of such Court.

44. Construction of Act. This Act, so far as is consistent with the tenor thereof, shall be construed with the Acts relating to salmon fisheries in Ireland, and herein referred to as "the Salmon Fisheries Acts," and the definitions of words and expressions now in force in the said Salmon Fisheries Acts shall apply to the same words and expressions when used in this Act, but so as to include "a head wear" under the expression "fixed net," and that "fishing mill-dam" shall mean a dam used or intended to be used partly for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish, and partly for the purpose of supplying water for milling or other purposes.

45. Recovery of Penalties. All penalties imposed by this Act shall be recovered and applied in manner in which penalties under the said Salmon Fisheries Acts are recoverable and applicable.

46. Saving Clause. Nothing in this Act contained shall render legal or be deemed to recognise as legal, or to confer any title on any person in respect of any fixed net or

fishing wear that is in contravention of any Act of Parliament or of the common law in force in Ireland.

47. As to Fixed Engines now in use, â Provided always, that nothing hereinbefore contained shall prevent any person having any fixed engine now in use, and in respect of which licence has been paid, from being allowed to continue to use the same during the remainder of the present season.

ENGLISH SALMON FISHERIES ACTS,
WITH
NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS.

24 25 Vict. c. 109 (Act 1861).

26 Vict. c. 10.

28 29 Vict. c. 121 (Act 1865).

33 34 Vict. c. 33.

36 Vict. c. 13.

36 37 Vict. c. 71 (Act 1873).

24 25 VICT. c. 109.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to Fisheries of Salmon in England.

6th August, 1861.

Whereas the salmon fisheries of England have of late years been greatly injured, and for the purpose of increasing the supply of salmon it is expedient to amend the laws relating to fisheries of salmon in England: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Preliminary.

1. Shm't title. â This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861.

2. Apidication of Act. â This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland, or to the river Tweed, as defined by the Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859.

3. Cummencement of Act. â Thia Act shall not come into operation until the first day of October one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

4. Bcfnitlon of Terms. â In this Act, unless there is something inconsistent in the context, the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned shall have respectively the meanings hereby assigned to them; that is to say,

"Person" shall include any body of persons, corporate or unincorporate:

"Salmon" shall include all migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, salmon, cock or kipper, kelt, laurel, girling, grilse, botcher, blue cock, blue pole, fork tail, mort, peal, herring peal, may peal, pugg peal, harvest cock, sea trout, white trout, sewin, buntling, guiniad, tubs, yellow fin, sprod, herling, whiting, bull trout, whitling, scurf, burn tail, fry, samlet, smolt, smelt, skirling or scarling, parr, spawn, pink, last spring, hepper, last brood, gravelling, shed, scad, blue fin, black tip, fingerling, brandling, brondling, or by any other local name:

"Young of salmon" shall include all young of the salmon species, whether known by the names of fry, samlet, smolt, smelt, skirling or skarling, par, spawn, pink,

last spring, hepper, last brood, gravelling, shed, scad, blue fin, black tip, finger-ling, brandling, brondling, or by any other name, local or otherwise:

"Court" shall include two or more magistrates as-â ssembled in petty sessions:

"Tidal waters" shall include the sea, and all rivers, creeks, streams, and other water as far as the tide flows and reflows:

"Inland waters" shall mean all waters that are not tidal waters:

"Dam" shall mean all weirs and other fixed obstructions used for the purpose of damming up water:

"Fishing weir" shall mean a dam used for the exclusive purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish:

"Fishing mill dam " shall mean a dam used or intended to be used partly for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish, and partly for the purpose of supplying water for milling or other purposes: 24 25 VICT. c. 109, Â Â 4, 5. 341

"Fixed engine" shall include stake-nets, bag-nets, putts, putchers, and all fixed implements or engines for catching or for facilitating the catching of fish:

"Home office" shall mean one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state.

The definition of " fishing weir " here given was repealed by the Act 1873, Â 4. See j ost.

The words " fixed engine " were further defined by this Act 1861, Â 11, the Act 1865, Â 39, and the Act 1873, Â 4, all of which must be taken together in order to have a comidete view of this subject. The cases already decided on the meaning of the words are noticed imder this Act 1861, Â 11.

Law of Fishing. Prohibition of certain Modes of destroying Fish.

5. Penalty on mixing poisonous Substances in Hivers. â Every person who causes or knowingly permits to flow, or puts or knowingly permits to be put, into any waters containing salmon, or into any tributaries thereof, any liquid or solid matter to such an extent as to cause the waters to poison or kill fish, shall incur the following penalties; (that is to say), (1.) Upon the first conviction a penalty not exceeding five pounds: (2.) Upon the second conviction a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding two pounds for every day during which such offence is continued: (3.) Upon the third or any subsequent conviction a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds a day for every day during which such offence is continued, commencing from the date of the third conviction: But no person shall be subject to the foregoing penalties for any act done in the exercise of any right to which he is by law entitled, if he prove to the satisfaction of the court before whom he is tried that he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render harmless the liquid or sould matter so permitted to flow or to be put into waters; but nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from acqui'ing a legal right in cases where he would have acquired 2 A if this Act had not passed, or exempt any person from any punishment to which he would otherwise be subject, or legalize any act or default that would but for this Act be deemed to be a nuisance or otherwise be contrary to law.

Pollution of Salmon Rivers. â These three sections (5, 6, 7) having been almost a dead letter, scarcely now require further notice. The law generally on this subject was stated, mite, J). 136; and in addition to the cases there stated, illustrative of actions brought for fouling a river, there may be noticed: Hoelg-kinson v. Ennor, 4 B. S. 229;

32 L. J. Q. B. 231; 8 L. T. (n. s.) 451; *Cator v. Metrojmlitan Board of JWorks*, 13 L. T. (n. s.) 352. As to injunctions in chancery, see *Goldsmicl v. Tunbridge Wells Commissioners*, L. R. 1 Ch. Ap. 349; 35 L. J. Cli. 382; 14 L."T. (n. s.) 154. In case of navigable rivers, instances of the attorney general suing on behalf of the public are found in *Attorney General v. Mayor of Kingston*, 34 L. J. Ch. 481; 12 L. T. (n. s.) 6G5; *Attorney General v. Bradford Canal*, L. R. 2 Eq. 71; 35 L. J. Ch. 619; 14 L. T. (n. s.) 248; *Attorney General v. Gee*, L. R. 10 Eq. 131.

It has been found that the remedy given by these sections is impracticable and inadequate, and new legislation on the subject is necessary.

G. Power to have Question under precedinj Section decided by Jury. â Where any proceedings are instituted by any complainant against any person for the recovery of any penalties alleged to have been incurred by him under the last preceding section, if such person, hereinafter referred to as " the defendant," on appearing before the justices constituting the court by which he is to be tried in pursuance of this Act, alleges, by way of defence, that he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render such matter harmless, and proves to the satisfaction of the court that in the event of the complaint being decided against him the expense of permanently preventing the matter complained of would, exclusive of costs, exceed one hundred pounds, and gives security, to be approved by such court, duly to prosecute his appeal and to abide the event thereof, all proceedings before the justices shall be stayed, and it shall be lawful for such complainant to bring an action in one of Her Majesty's superior courts of law at Westminster against the defendant; and the plaintiff' in such action shall deliver to the defendant an issue or issues whereby the question whether he has used the best practicable means, within a reasonable cost, to render such matter harmless may be tried; and the form of such issue or issues, in case of dispute, or in the case of non-appearance of the defendant, shall be settled by the court in which the action is brought, and such action shall bo prosecuted and issue or issues tried in the same manner and subject to the same incidents in and subject to which actions are prosecuted and issues tried in other cases within the jurisdiction of such court, or as near thereto as circumstances admit.

7. ff'ct of Issue. â The verdict of the jury on such issue shall, unless the court before which the same is tried orders a new trial, bo conclusive as to the questions involved in any subsequent proceedings that may be had for the recovery of any penalties in pursuance of the said section, and any costs that may have been incm-red before the justices by the parties to such action as is mentioned in this section shall be deemed to be costs incurred in such action, and be payable accordingly.

8. renalty ov fish big ivith Iltjhts, Spears, dr. â No person shall do the following things or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Use any light for the purpose of catching salmon: (2.) Use any otter lath or jack, wire or snare spear, gaff, strokehall, snatch, or other like instrument for catching or killing salmon: (3.) Have in his possession a light or any of the foregoing instruments under such circiimstances as to satisfy the court before whom he is tried that he intended at the time to catch or kill salmon by means thereof: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and shall forfeit any instruments used by him or

found in his possession in contravention of this section; but this section shall not apply to any person using a gaff as auxiliary to angling with a rod and line.

The words-within brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, Â 18. See some general observations on this section, ante, p. 143. Tills section was extended by Act ISO.), Â 04, to trout and char in salmon i-ivers within a fishery district.

A leister or fork fin- stabbing fish is included in the Avord " spear," and therefore is illegal. The word "snatch" includes any hook or combination of loooks which; ue pulled by jerking in a pool or water where fisli are lyins;; the essence of this catching consisting in the attempt made to fix the hook in some part of the body of a fish. A common hook for bait used with a fisliing-rod and line will satisfy the meaning of the word " snatch," and several convictions for so using a rod and line as a snatch have been properly made by justices. See also definition in Act 1873, Â 4. The words "wire or snare" are very comprehensive, and seem to include any contrivance capable of catching a salmon by inclosing or detaining it externally, as distinguished fi'om hooking it with a fly or bait-hook. As to apidrehending persons using illegal instruments by night, see Act 1873, Â 38.

The words " otter lath or jack," now made illegal instruments, are defined by the Act 1873, Â 4.

It is to be observed that cross-line fishing still remains legal, and is subject to license duty. See Act 1873 (Sched. 3). The close season for cross-line fishing of salmon is the same as that for net-fisliing of salmon, and not identical with single rod and line fishing. See Act 1873, Â 4.

As to a third off'ence under this section, see Act 1865, Â 56.

9. Penalty on using Roe as a Bait. â No person shall do the following things or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Use any fish roe for the purpose of fishing: (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, any salmon roe: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds, and shall forfeit all salmon roe found in his possession; but this section shall not apply to any person who uses or has in his possession salmon roe for artificial propagation or other scientific pui'poses, or gives any reason satisfactory to the court by whom he is tried for having the same in his possession.

See some observations on this section, ante, p. 144. As to a third offence under this section, see Act 1865, Â 56. Tliis section was extended to trout and char in salmon rivers which are within a fishery district. See Act 1865, Â 64.

10. Penalty on usincf certain Nets. â No person shall take or attempt to take salmon with any net having a mesh of less dimensions than two inches in extension from knot to knot (the measurement to be made on each side of the square), or eight inches measured round each mesh when wet; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit all nets and tackle used by him in so doing, and shall for each offence incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and the placing two or more nets behind or near to each other in such manner as to practically diminish the mesh of the nets used, or the covering the nets used with canvas, or the using any other artifice so as to evade the provisions of this section with respect to the mesh of nets, shall be deemed to be an act in contravention of this section.

See some observations on this section, ante, p. 145.

The legal mesh of net is still two inches from knot to knot, and will remain legal until it is altered by some bye-law duly made in a fishery district in pursuance of Act 1873, § 39. There is no power to alter the mesh of net except in fishery districts, and therefore the two-inch mesh will still be the fixed law in all waters not included in a fishery district.

As to placing "one net below another so as to diminish the mesh," this may apply to such nets as have what is called three walls, that is to say, a legal meshed net in the middle, with a larger meshed net on each side of it, all touching each other, and so arranged that a fish coming against either side of the legal meshed net pushes it through the large mesh, and so makes a pocket for itself, in which it is inclosed and caught. It was held in *Dodd v. Armour*, 31 J. P. 773, that the justices properly decided that such a net, called in some places a shackle-net, did practically diminish the mesh of the net, and so was illegal. The same rule would apply to a net of two walls if used in the same way. But there are other nets made of two parts, one consisting of the legal mesh and the other of a much larger mesh, the former being in front of the latter part, yet when the net is in action the large meshed part does not touch the small meshed part, but they are several feet or yards apart. In such cases there seems to be no infringement of the above enactment, as, for example, the coracle-net and some hand-nets which act in a similar way.

11. Penalty on placing or fixing fixed Engines. No fixed engine of any description shall be placed or used for catching or for the purpose of facilitating the catching of salmon, or detaining or obstructing the free passage of salmon in any inland or tidal waters; and any engine placed or used in contravention of this section may be taken possession of or destroyed: and any engine so placed or used, and any salmon taken by such engine, shall be forfeited, and in addition thereto, the owner of any engine placed or used in contravention of this section, shall, for each day of so placing or using the same, incur a penalty not exceeding ten pounds; and for the purposes of this section a net that is secured by anchors, or otherwise temporarily fixed to the soil, shall be deemed to be a fixed engine, but this section shall not affect any ancient right or mode of fishing as lawfully exercised at the time of the passing of this Act by any person by virtue of any grant or charter or immemorial usage; provided always, that nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to apply to fishing weirs or fishing mill dams.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, § 18, but they do not materially alter the meaning, and they even cause some confusion between the meanings of fixed engine and fishing weir, whereas the last words of this section expressly say that nothing shall apply to fishing weirs.

The definition of fixed engine is found partly here and also in § 4; also in Act 1865, § 39, and Act 1873, § 4, all of which must be consulted.

As already stated, ante, p. 146, any person whatever may demolish an illegal fixed engine; *Williams v. Blachwell*, 2 H. C. 33; 32 L. J. Exch. 174; 8 L. T. (n. s.) 252.

Notwithstanding all the definitions, however, many cases may still arise as to which it may be extremely difficult to decide whether a particular engine is or is not a fixed engine. And several cases have already been decided on the subject, both by the superior courts and the special commissioners of fisheries.

It was held under this Act that a net stretched across part of a river with a stone at one end and corks at the other, so as to keep the net in position till a fish entered, when the stone gave way and the net coiled at once round the fish and entangled it, was not a fixed engine: *Thomas v. Jones*, 5 B. S. 916; 34 L. J. M. C. 60; 11 ii. T. (n. s.) 450; 29 J. P. 55.

But it was afterwards held by the commissioners of fisheries that under the enlarged definition in the Act 1865, the same kind of net as used in Wales, and called a jackass or donkey-net, did constitute a fixed engine: *Case of Michael, Cardigan*, 1st Oct. 1872.

A net fixed at one end for twenty minutes to a stake while the other end is swept round is a fixed engine; and if it is used by one of the public in tidal waters, it is no defence that the public fished in the same way at the same place from time immemorial: *aiding v. Wild*, 14 L. T. (n. s.) 402; 30 J. P. 295.

And the same was held in reference to the shot-vawr at Cardigan Bay, which was a large net fixed by a boat and anchor for two hours: *Case of Bowen, Cardigan*, 2nd Oct. 1872.

The ancient statute of 2 lien. 6, c. 15, rendered it illegal to use nets fixed to poles or stakes, and fixed either constantly or for intervals of time: 12 Coke, R9; *Ilolford v. George*, L. R. 3 Q. B. G3J; 9 B. S. 815; 32 J. P. 468.

Where a net was used which had a stang or oaken jiole weighted with lead attached to one end to keep the net upright, the stang resting on the ground while a boat went out with the other end and rested i' oir hours, it was held that, under the definition in this section, it was sufficiently doubtful whether this was a fixed engine, so that the superior court would not interfere: *Ijirch v. Turner*, 29 J. P. 37.

A fixed engine, however, which is placed merely for the catching of sea-fish, and which catches salmon only incidentally, cannot be interfered with under this section: *Watts v. Lucas*, L. R. 6 Q. B. 226; 40 L. J. Q. B. 144; 35 J. P. 579; 24 L. T. (n. s.) 128. And the same was held by the commissioners in reference to Lord Pem-hyn's stake-nets at Menai Straits, near the mouth of the Ogwen, and as to stake-nets at the mouth of the Canterbury Stour, also in Moreciunbe Bay, and numerous other places.

The stop-nets used in the Wye and Severn, which are movable nets resting on a boat which is kept stationary by cross-poles resting on the bed of the shore, were held by the commissioners to be fixed engines for catching salmon, and the Court of Queen's Bench held that decision right: *Gore v. Special Commissioners of Fisheries*, L. IL 6 Q. B. 561; 40 L. J. Q. B. 252; 24 L. T. (N. s.) 702; 35 J. P. 405.

The stopping-nets used in the Wye, which were movable nets fixed across the whole river from bank to bank, for thirty minutes, until another net was worked down towards the net that was fixed, were held by the commissioners to be fixed nets: *Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Case, Hereford*, 28th June, 1870. And the same was held as to a stail-net in the Esk: *Case of Lord Leconfield*, 23rd Sept. 1869.

On the other hand, a net called a beating-net, used in the Wye, was held by the special commissioners not to be a fixed engine, though one end was fixed for a time to the bank, for the main operation was done by hand: *Case of Baskerville*, 3rd Jan. 1871.

Again, the commissioners held that a ha; if or halve-net used in the Solway and Ribble was not a fixed engine. This is a small net fixed to a frame which a man uses by wading and leaning on the poles till a fish strikes the net, when he heaves the net up and takes out the fish: *Linton's Case*, 12th Dec. 1868. So it was held by the commissioners that though a windlass was fixed on the river bank to help the fishermen in drawing in the net, this did not make it a fixed engine: *Case of Duchess of Cleveland*, 13th Dec. 1871.

It has also been judicially found that a fixed engine is not a self-catching apparatus, and in many cases it is not so. If the main part of the operation is supplied by that which is fixed, this satisfies the definition. Thus a hod, which was a small square inclosure, covered on the top and open on one side, made with stakes and wattling, near the bank of a river, in deep water, and so contrived that fish are led by their instinct to enter the inclosure and rest there, while the fisherman, by inserting a leister through a small hole in the roof, could kill the fish and complete the capture, was held to be a fixed engine: *Case of Lutwidge*, 4th Jan. 1870. So raise-nets and V-weirs have seldom a self-catching apparatus.

Nearly all the fixed engines for taking salmon known to exist in England and Wales have been already inquired into, and their legality or illegality has been determined by the special commissioners appointed under the Act 1865, s. 46, so that there is now little difficulty in ascertaining which is legal and which is illegal. See notes to Act 1865, s. 40-44. The ancient rights to use fixed engines which were excepted from the operation of this section, and which were further defined by the Act 1865, s. 39, have thus been inquired into and disposed of. The exception of ancient rights applied only to private rights of property as distinguished from mere popular usage of a particular net or contrivance, for however long the public may have used certain modes of fishing, these have been held not to come within the exception in the above section: *Olcling v. J. Wild*, 14 L. T. (n. s.) 402; 30 J. P. 295; *Bevins v. Bird*, 14 L. T. (n. s.) 306; 29 J. P. 500. Hence public modes of fishing with fixed engines were decided to be illegal, as, for example, the stake-nets in the Dee, the poke-nets and stream-nets in the Solway, the compass-nets or stop-nets in the Cleddy, though these modes had been used during all living memory. New modes, however, of using movable nets may be invented, and the question may still arise whether the engine is fixed or movable, and the justices of the peace will have to determine this.

When an ancient right is set up before justices, they are bound to hold their hands if they find evidence of a right is shown: *Eaby v. Sued*, 29 J. P. 37. And the same rule applies where a private right of several fishery is set up in tidal waters, as against the public: *Booth v. Brough*, 33 J. P. 694. And it is the same when the defendant sets up his right as one of the public: *K v. Burdett*, 34 J. P. 53.

12. Penalty on using certain Dams for catching Salmon. The following regulations shall be observed with respect to dams: (1.) No dam except such fishing weirs and fishing mill dams as are lawfully in use at the time of the passing of this Act, by virtue of a grant or charter or immemorial usage, shall be used for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of salmon: 1. Any person catching or attempting to catch salmon in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for each

salmon which he catches: 2. All traps, nets, and contrivances used in or in connexion with the dam for the purpose of catching salmon shall be forfeited: 3. All salmon caught in contravention of the above prohibition shall be forfeited: And no fishing wcu-, although lawfully in use as aforesaid, shall be used for the purposes of catching salmon unless it have therein such free gap as is hereinafter mentioned; and no fishing mill dam, although lawfully in use as aforesaid, shall be used for the purposes of catching salmon unless it have attached thereto a fish pass of such form and dimensions as shall be approved of by the Home Office, nor unless such fish pass has constantly running thi-ough it such a flow of water as will enable salmon to pass up and down such pass, but so nevertheless that such pass shall not be larger nor deeper than requisite for the above purposes: (2.) No person shall catch or attempt to catch, except by rod and line, any salmon in the head race or tail race of any mill, or within fifty yards below any dam, unless such mill or dam has attached thereto a fish pass of such form and dimensions as may be approved by the Home Office, and such fish pass has constantly running through it such a flow of water as will enable salmon to pass up and down it; and if any person acts in contravention of tho foregoing provision, 1. He shall inciu" a penalty not exceeding two pounds for each offence, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for every salmon so caught: 2. He shall forfeit all salmon caught in contra- vention of this section, and all nets or other instruments used or placed for catching tho same.

This Poction di nde? dams into four kinds:â 1. The dams which are neither tishins weh's uor lisliiutf mill dams: 2. Uams wliicli are fishing weirs, but wliicli are not ancient or legal in all respects; 3. Dains wliicli are fishing mill dams, but which are not ancient or legal in all respects; 4. Dams which are either fishing weirs or fisliiing miu dams, and which are ancient and legal.

1. As to dams which are ordinary mill or irrigation or navigation dams, this section imposes no duty on the owner or occupier, except that lie is not to use the dam for the purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of sahiion. This off'ence will be committed when the miller, by turning off the waters, dries the jiool below the dam suddenly, so as to catch more easily the fish that may be stopped by the dam. See *Garnett v. Backhouse*, L. R. 3 Q. B. 639; 37 L. J. Q. B. 1; 17 L. T. (n. s.) 170. But this section does not compel the millowner, even though his dam illegally obstructs the passage of fish, to make a fish pass, or even to allow third parties to make one at his expense.

2 and 3. As to dams which are either fishing weirs or fishing mill dams, but neither ancient nor legal, this section does not compel the o Aaier to make a free gap in the one case, nor a fish pass in the other case. It merely subjects to penalties those wlio use these dams for catching or facilitating the catching of salmon. The power afterwards given to the commissioners. to deal with such dams is stated in notes to Act 1865, Â 42.

4. As to dams which are either fishing weirs or fishing mill dams, and legal in all respects, this section does not compel the owner or occupier to make a free gap or a fish pass, but merely sul)jects him to a penalty if he uses the dam for catching or facilitating the catching of fish without a gap or pass being first made: *Moulton v. Welby*, 2 H. C. 25; 32 L. J. Exch. 173; 8 L. T. (n. s.) 284; 27 J. P. 536. It thus leaves

it entirely to the option of the owner to make a gap or pass, or not. He may prefer to suspend his use of the dam for fishing, in which case the worst that happens to him is that he cannot use the dam for fishing. With regard to fishing weirs, however, a subsequent section (27) compels the owner to make a free gage, whether the fishing weir is legal or illegal, and whether used for fishing or not. But as to all the other three kinds of dams, the owner was under no obligation by this section to make a fish pass at all unless he desired. And it is to be observed that all these dams usually alike obstruct the passage of fish, whether legal or illegal, and whether the fishing box in a legal fishing mill dam is used or not is of small consequence compared with the importance of having a fish pass made over it. When once a proper fish pass is made over a dam, even though it have a fish box or trap at work and connected with it, the fish would have a fair and equal chance of escape, and those that escaped into the higher parts of the river would compensate tenfold for all the loss of fish that could be taken in the fish box or trap.

Fish passes in Legal Fishing Mill Dams. — If the owner of a legal fishing mill dam wishes to continue the use of his fish box, then this section prescribes the conditions of the fish pass which he must first make. One is the approval of the Home Office; the other is that water should constantly flow through the fish pass, so as to enable fish to pass up and down. The second condition is not only founded on an erroneous notion of what a fish pass is, but it is usually so destructive to the milling power that no prudent miller would make one with such a condition attached. Hence this section has been a dead letter, so far as the voluntary making of fish passes in legal fishing mill dams is concerned. The legislature at the time of the passing of this Act was not in possession of any precise knowledge of the requirements of an efficient fish pass, and by annexing this fatal and suicidal condition rendered this enactment practically worthless, so that fish are as much obstructed as ever by the existence of these legal fishing mill dams. See further on this subject. Act 1805, § 12, and Act 1873, § 50.

13. Penalty on Company or Person not competent to prevent the Descent of Salmon into artificial Streams. — Where salmon or the young of salmon are led aside out of a main stream by means of any artificial channel used for the purpose of supplying towns with water, or for supplying any navigable canal, the company or persons having the control over such artificial channel shall, within six months after the commencement of this Act, put up and shall maintain, at their own costs and charges, a grating or gratings across such channel, for the purpose of preventing the descent of the salmon or the young of salmon, and such grating or gratings shall be placed in such form and manner as may be approved by one of the inspectors in this Act mentioned; and any company or persons failing to put a grating or gratings in cases where they are required to do so by this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of six months during which he fails to comply with the provisions of this section; and any such company or person failing so to maintain the same shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound for every day during which such failure continues: Provided always, that no such grating shall be so placed as to interfere with the passage of boats on any navigable canal.

This section made it compulsory only on the o l e s of waterworks or navigable canals to make a grating across an; utilici; d channel. Tlie power has now been extended by the Act 1873' Â Â 39, 58â 60, as to the effect of which, see those sections. See also observations on this section, ante, p. 149.

Prohibition of the Destruction of Unseasonable Fish.

14. Penalty on taking Unclean Fish. â No person shall do any of the following things; that is to say, (1.) Wilfully take kill, or injure or attempt to take any unclean or unseasonable salmon or trout or char; (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, any unclean or unseasonable salmon or trout or char, or any part thereof:

And any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur the following penalties; that is to say, (1.) He shall forfeit any fish taken, bought, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession; (2.) He shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each such offence, and a further penalty of one pound in respect of each fish taken, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession: But this section shall not applyâ (1.) To any person who takes such fish accidentally, and forthwith returns the same to the water with the least possible injury: (2.) To any person who takes or is in possession of such fish for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, Â 18, and tliey remedy an error pointed oi; t in the original section, ante, p. 149. Some of these offences only will be cumulative: thus it would be impossible to con-vdct of injuring and also of killing â of attempting to take, and of takingâ but it may be otherwise as to the other offences. It is extremely difficult to convict of the offence of wilfully taking an unclean fish, as it is seldom possible to know whether it is clean or unclean before it is taken, and even then there are so many shades and degrees of uncleanness that justices often have a difficulty iii ljeing satisfied that the act has been done with knowledge. See *Hojiton v. TJdrlwall*, 9 L. T. (n. s.) 327; 27 J. P. 743.

As to the punishment of a third offence under this section, see Act 1865, Â 56. See further offences as to trout and char a7ite, Â Â 8, 9, in Act 1865, Â 64; Act 1873, Â 38.

As regards scientific purposes, see Act 1865, Â 60. It is to be observed that it is only the owner or occupier of the fishery where tlie fish are cau 'ht, and the hoard of conservators (if any), acting jointly, that can give sutficient rrpound for this exenqition, and that their joint consent is always necessary when a third party takes unclean fish. There is no such exemption as to fish that are " clean."

15. Penalty on taldnrj the Yoxing of Salmon. â No person shall do the following things or any of them; that is to say, (1.) Wilfully take or destroy the young of salmon; (2.) Buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession, the young of salmon; (3.) Place any device for the purpose of obstructing the passage of the young of salmon; (4.) Wilfully injure the young of salmon; (5.) Wilfully disturb any spawning bod, or any bank or shallow on which the spawn of salmon may be: And any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur the following penalties; that is to say, (1.) He shall forfeit all the young of salmon found in his possession; (2.) He shall forfeit all rods, lines, nets, devices, and instruments used in committing any of the above oflences; (3.) He shall for each offence pay a penalty not exceeding five pounds; But nothing herein contained shall apply to any person who may have obtained such

young of salmon for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes, and nothing herein contained shall prejudice the legal right of any owner to take materials from any stream.

In order to con nct of possessing the young of salmon, it is necessary that the defendant shoiild know, or that it is n-ason-able to suppose he knew, the dilference lietween young salmon and other young fish somewhat resembling them, it being a question of fact fur tlie justices whether tlie naliis animus existed: *Hoptony. Thirlwall*, 27 J. P. 743; 9 L. T. (n. s.) 327.

As to taking young salmon for scientific purposes, see note to last section, and Act 1865, Â 60.

16. Penaltij on disiturhuui Fish ichen spauninr. â If any person wilfully disturbs or attempts to catch salmon when spawning, or when on or near theii- spa ling beds, he shall for each ofience incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; but this section shall not apply to any person who may catch or attempt to catch salmon for the purposes of artificial propagation or other scientific purposes.

Restrictions as to Times of Fisjng.

17. Close Time. â No person shall fish for, catch, or attempt to catch or kill salmon between the days hereinafter mentioned (which interval is herein referred to as the close season); that is to say, between the first day of September and the first day of February following, both inclusive, except only that it shall be lawful to â fish with a rod and line between the first day of September and the first day of November following, both inclusive; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit any salmon caught by him, and shall in addition thereto incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding two pounds in respect of each salmon so caught.

This may be taken now to be the fixed statutory close season for all rivers and waters not included in some fishery district, and also in all fishery districts, until the close season shall be altered by bye-laws. Before the Act 1873, Â 65, repealed the 18th section of the Act 1861, it was competent for the secretary of state to extend the close season; and if this had been acted on as to places not now included in a fishery district, there is tliis singular result, that a different close season than the above will apply to such places, and now it cannot be altered. Possibly, however, the close season may not have been altered, except as to jilaces in a fishery district; and if so, the anomaly alluded to will have been avoided. The penalty here enacted extends to the close season, when varied. See Act 1873, Â 4.

The person convicted under this section forfeits the net or rod used in fishing. See Act 1865, Â 58, 18. Poiver of Home Office to extend or vary Close Season. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 39.

19. Penalty on selling Fish during Close Time. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â G5. See Act 1873, Â 19.

20. Removal of fixed Engines during Close Time. â The proprietor or occupier of every fishery for salmon shall, within thirty-six hours after the commencement of the close season, cause to be removed and carried away from the waters within his fishery the inscales, hecks, tops, and rails of all cruives, boxes, or cribs, and all planks and temporary fixtures used for taking or killing salmon, and all other obstructions to the

free passage of fish in or through the cruives, cribs, and boxes within his fishery; and if any proprietor or occupier omits to remove and carry away in manner aforesaid any things hereby requu'ed to be removed and carried away, he shall incur the following penalties; (that is to say), (1.) He shall forfeit all the engines or other things that are not removed and carried away in compliance with this section: (2.) He shall, for every day during which he suffers such things to remain unremoved beyond the period prescribed by this Act, pay a sum not exceeding ten pounds.

This section is very imperfectly drawn, and altogether omits to provide for the casesâ and they are numerousâ where fixed engines have neither a crib, box, or cruiue. Many fixed engines, such as ebbing weirs and stake-nets, are so constructed that fish may be inclosed and killed by the water of each tide leaving them dry, and there is nothing to compel the owner to make an opening or to put his fixed engine out of getu", so that fish may escape these contingencies during close time. The special commissioners, in their certificates, took the precaution in most cases to describe such an opening or means of escape as part of the fixed engine certified by them as legal, but another enactment was required to enable the law to be enforced. This section being left in its defective state, and no other or better enactment being in the Act 1873, this remedy is not available against the owners of fixed engines, and the same remai'k applies to fixed engines in the weekly close season.

The section, however, meets the case of all fishing mill dams having boxes, cribs, or cruives, whether these are nseil during the fishing season or not, and whether or not the opening does injury to the mill, though the enactment does not apply to such fishing mill dams as have no boxes, cribs, or criuvesâ for example, those in Hampshu'e and Wiltshire.

The word " fishery" includes the fishery which forms jmrst of a fislung mill dam; so that the owner of a dam which was legally used for taking salmon, though the fisliery has been discontinued, is liahle to remove all olistrctions during the annual close season, and also, by the 22nd section, in each weekly close season to make and keep a clear opening four feet in mdth through each crib, hox, or cruiue: *Hodgson v. Little*, 14 C. B. (N. S.) ill; 32 L. J. C. P. 251; 8 L. T. (n. s.) 358. And it is no 2 B answer that this injures the milling power: *Hodgson v. Little*, 16 C. B. (N. s.) 198; 33 L. J. C. B. 288; 11 L. T. (n. s.) 136.

The words " box, crib, or crnive" (as already stated) render the section inapplicable to nearly all fixed engines, and to fishing mill dams which have no box, crib, or cruiue.

This section causes much more expense and loss to owners of mill dams than an enactment compelling such owners to make fish passes at their own expense would do; and there can be no comparison between the relative benefit to the fisheries of the two enactments, 21. Weekly Close Time. â No person shall fish for, catch, or kill by any means other than a rod and line, any salmon between the hour of twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and the hour of six of the clock on Monday morning; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit all fish taken by him, and any net or movable instrument used by him in taking the same, and in addition thereto shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound in respect of each fish so taken between twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and six of the clock on Monday morning; but nothing in this section contained shall compel

the owner of any putts or putchers to remove or draw up the same during such time as is mentioned in this section, or subject him to a penalty, so that he lets down a net in such manner or uses such other device as the Home Office approves for the purpose of preventing salmon passing into the putts or putchers during such time as c. fore::'ud.

This enactment and the 22nd section do for the weekly close season what the 17th and 20th sections do for the annual close season. The weekly close season may be varied by bye-law in a fishery district, but the time here specified must remain the fixed law in all places not within a fishery district, for there is no power now to alter the time in such places.

The 21st and 22nd sections have the same defect as the 20th section as regards fixed engines, and also fishing mill dams which have no boxes, cribs, or cruives. See notes to Â 20.

22. A free Passage to be left through Cribs or Ti'aps during Weekly Close Time. The proprietor or occupier of every fishery shall, between twelve of the clock at noon on Saturday and six of the clock on the Monday morning following, maintain a clear opening, of not less than four feet in width from the bottom to the top, through all cribs, boxes, or 24 35 VICT. c. 109, Â Â 22, 23. 357 cruives used for taking salmon within his fishery, so that a free space of that width is effectually secured for the passage of fish up and down through each box, crib, or cruive, whether used for the purpose of fishing or not; and shall for the purpose of maintaining such opening, remove the inscales and rails of all such boxes, cribs, or cruives; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur the following penalties: (1.) He shall for each offence pay a sum not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty not exceeding one pound for each fish so taken: (2.) He shall forfeit every fish caught in contravention of this section.

See notes to Â 21.

Fish Passes.

23. Proprietor with Consent of Home Office may attach Fish Passes to existing Dams. Any proprietor of a fishery or a board of conservators with the written consent of the Home Office may attach to every dam existing at the time of the passing of this Act a fish pass, of such form and dimensions as the Home Office may approve, so that no injury be done to the milling power or to the supply of water to or of any navigable river, canal, or other inland navigation by such fish pass; and any person obstructing any person legally authorized in erecting or doing any necessary act to erect or maintain such fish pass shall incur a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for each act of obstruction; and any person injuring such fish pass shall pay the expense of repairing the injury, such expense to be recovered in a summary manner, and in addition thereto, if such injury is wilful, shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and any person doing any act for the purpose of preventing salmon from passing through a fish pass, or taking any salmon in its passage through the same, shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for a first offence, and not exceeding ten pounds for each subsequent offence, and shall forfeit any salmon taken by him in contravention of this section, and any instrument used by him in taking the same: provided that if any injury is done to any dam by reason of the affixing of a fish

pass in pursuance of this section, any person sustaining any loss thereby may recover compensation for 2b2

Each injury in a summary manner from the person or body of persons by whom such fish pass has been affixed.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, § 53.

The limitation of time for recovering compensation is stated by the Act 1865, § 59.

This section, like the part of the 12th section relating to fish passes, is so imperfectly drawn, and founded on such a misconception of the nature and effect of a proper fish pass, that it has been all but a dead letter. Though it has the appearance of enabling third parties to make a fish pass on a weir against the owner's consent, yet it has proved inadequate, because the power to compel the owner to submit to a fish pass being made on his property is coupled with the fatal condition, "so that no injury be done to the milling power," and it is impossible to make an efficient fish pass over most of the mill weirs in salmon rivers without injuring the milling power, unless the miller is adequately protected by suitable enactments. An efficient fish pass may be made over any dam without injury to the milling power, provided there are such appropriate powers and machinery, as well as protection provided to the millowner. No such machinery being by this or the later Acts provided, the practical result is that no adequate fish pass can be made against the consent of the owner of the mill weir. The kind of fish pass which was contemplated under this section, and which at the date of the Act may have been supposed to be adequate, was merely "to attach or affix" a pass to the dam; that is to say, to build some structure or annex some fixture outside of and external to some part of the dam, but without interfering with the structure of the dam; and above all, without having an inlet formed below the crest of the dam. Several of such passes or ladders were, soon after the passing of the Act, "attached or affixed" to dams, but they are mostly useless, and have failed to afford any passage to fish.

The provisions of the Act 1873, instead of repealing this and the 24th section, and substituting enactments containing adequate powers and machinery for enabling efficient fish passes to be made, do not substantially alter the enactment in this section, or enable any third parties to compel the owner of a weir to submit to the essential interference with his property required for an efficient pass, and at the same time to secure him against any injury. See notes to Act 1873, § 50, et seq.

Another defect in this enactment is, that it draws no distinction between dams which legally and those which illegally obstruct the passage of salmon, but indiscriminately throws the expense of making a fish pass in all cases on third parties. Thus, though the owner of a mill dam may be liable to an action for obstructing the passage of fish, and a remedy, though 24 & 25 VICT. c. 109, § 24, 25. 359 expensive and circuitous, may be now open both at law and equity against him, as well as the remedy by abatement, still he is not by this or any enactment subjected to the expense of putting, "the only proper termination to the cause of complaint by making a pass at his own expense. This is contrary to the rule of justice, that he who for his own benefit does something which injures another, and who could be made, by a circuitous and expensive process,

to cease doing such injury, should by a sunnuary process be ordered to remove the cause of injury at his own expense.

24. Notice required before Home Office gives Consent. The Home Office shall not give their consent to the attachment by a proprietor or board of conservators of a fish pass to any dam, in pursuance of the last preceding section, unless such proprietor proves, to the satisfaction of the Home Office, that he has served notice on the owner of such dam of his intention to apply for such consent, and at the same time has furnished him with plan and specification of the fish pass which he proposes to erect, a reasonable time before his application; and it shall be lawful for such owner to urge any objections he may think fit to the Home Office against their giving their consent, and the Home Office shall take any objections so made into consideration before they give their consent to the attachment of the fish pass.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, § 53. See notes to preceding section.

25. Fish Passes to be attached to future Dams. Every person who, after the passing of this Act, in waters where salmon are found, constructs a new dam, or raises or alters, so as to create increased obstruction to fish, a dam already constructed, shall attach and maintain attached thereto in an efficient state a fish pass of such form and dimensions as may be determined by the Home Office, and if he do not, such person shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and it shall be lawful for the Home Office to cause to be done any work by this section required to be done by such person, and to recover the expense of doing the same in a summary manner from the person in default; but this section shall not authorize anything to be done which may injuriously affect any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation, nor shall anything in this or the last preceding section prevent any person from removing a fish pass for the purpose of repairing or altering a dam, so that within a reasonable time he restore such fish pass in as an efficient state as it was before he removed the same.

This section has been impliedly repealed by the Act 1873, § 46. See notes to that section.

26. Supply of Water to Fish Passes. The sluices, if any, for drawing off the water which would otherwise flow over any dam shall be kept shut on Sundays and at all times when the water is not required for milling purposes in such manner as to cause such water to flow through the fish pass if any, or over the dam; and any person making default in complying with the requisitions of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five shillings per hour for every hour during which such default continues; but this section shall not preclude any person from opening a sluice for the purpose of letting off water in cases of flood, or for milling purposes, or when necessary for the purposes of navigation, or for cleaning or repairing any dam or mill or the appurtenances thereof.

The alterations within brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, § 53.

The words "through the fish pass" must mean the fish pass referred to in the 23rd section, and the general heading to that section, as well as to the three following sections, also confine those words. Hence, if a volunteer has made, or shall hereafter make, a fish pass without any assistance from the Home Office, this enactment will often be still inapplicable. (See also Act 1873, § 52, and note.) The enactment is

also of less value, because the fish pass made under the 23rd section is necessarily of such a kind as will not be materially benefited by causing the water, especially in dry weather, to flow over the dam or through the pass. The enactment was originally and is still intended to prevent millers drawing water down their mill races and wasting it through the bye-wash, thereby abstracting it from where it would be useful for the passage of fish at the dam, if there is an efficient fish pass there: But as a great number of dams have no sluices at the top of the head race, this enactment will be of no use at all, because the shutting of the sluices will not cause water to flow over the dam or through the fish pass. It is unfortunate that the legislature should not have taken care that an efficient pass should be made in all dams as the only sound basis for such an enactment, which in its present shape will often cause injury to millers without any benefit to the fish.

Restrictions as to Fishing Weirs.

27. Construction of Free Gaps. Where any fishing weir extends more than halfway across any stream at its lowest state of water, it shall have a free gap or opening in accordance with the regulations following, unless otherwise authorized by the Home Office, under the powers of this Act; that is to say, (1.) The free gap shall be situate in the deepest part of the stream between the points where it is intercepted by the weir: (2.) The sides of the gap shall be in a line with and parallel to the direction of the stream at the weir: (3.) The bottom of the gap shall be level with the natural bed of the stream above and below the gap: (4.) The width of the gap in its narrowest part shall be not less than one tenth part of the width of the stream; provided always, that such gap shall not be required to be wider than forty feet, and shall not in any case be narrower than three feet.

This enactment only requires a free gap if the weir extends more than half way across the whole river; and if the weir is confined to a branch of the river which adjoins the main river and which does not extend halfway across the aggregate width, this enactment is not applicable: *Rolle v. Whyte*, 813. *is.* 116; *L. R.* 3 Q. B. 286; 37 *L. J. Q. B.* 105.

The special commissioners have decided all the questions which required to be settled as to the size and position of these free gaps, but future changes in the channel of the river may yet give rise to questions of difficulty under this section. The alteration of a free gap is also provided for in Act 1865, § 32, where the weir is in a fishery district.

It appears from the words "unless otherwise authorized by the Home Office under the powers of this Act," that it must have been intended to confer a power on the Home Office to vary these regulations in special cases; but by some mistake the Act omitted to confer any such powers. Hence those words have no operation, and are practically struck out of the enactment, so that in all cases of weirs extending more than halfway across a river, the obligation to make a free gap became absolute and peremptory, and cannot be modified.

See also Act 1865, § 42, and notes.

28. Enforcing Free Gaps in Fishing Weirs. The following rules shall be observed for the purpose of enforcing efficient free gaps in fishing weirs; that is to say, (1.) Where a weir is without a legal free gap at the time of the commencement of this

Act the owner of such weir shall within twelve months after the commencement of this Act make such a gap, and if he does not he shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of twelve months during which he does not make such gap: (2.) Where a free gap has been made in a weir, but the same is not maintained in accordance with this Act, the owner of such weir shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound a day for each day he is in default: (3.) No alteration shall be made in the bed of any river in such manner as to reduce the flow of water through a free gap; if it is, the person making the same shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty of one pound a day until he restores the bed of the river to its original state: (4.) No person shall place any obstruction, use any contrivance, or do any act whereby fish may be scared, deterred, or in any way prevented from freely entering and passing up and down a free gap at all periods of the year; and any person placing any obstruction, using any contrivance, or doing any act in contravention of the regulation lastly hereinbefore contained shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for the first offence, and not exceeding ten pounds for each subsequent offence; but this last regulation shall not apply to a temporary bridge or board used for crossing the free gap, and taken away immediately when a person has crossed the same.

29. Construction of Boxes and Cribs in Fisjiinr Weirs and Fishing Mill Dams. â The following rules shall be observed in relation to the construction of boxes and cribs in fishing weirs and fishing mill dams; that is to say, (1.) The upper surface of the sill shall be level with the bed of the river: 24 25 VICT. c. 109, Â Â 29, 30. 363 (2.) The bars or inscales of the heck or upstream side of the box or crib shall not be nearer each other than two inches, and shall be capable of being removed and shall be placed perpendicularly:

And the owner of any fishing weir or fishing mill dam that has attached thereto any box or crib in contravention of this

Act shall bring the same into conformity with this Act within six months after the commencement of this Act; and he shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day after the expiration of such period of six months during which he fails to comply with the provisions of this section; and any owner failing so to maintain the same shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound for every day during which

such failure continues.

Questions of difficulty as to construction of these cribs or boxes necessarily arise out of the vagueness of the language here used. The words "the upper surface of the sill shall be level with the bed of the river," may mean either "the bed of the river above the sill," or "both above and below the sill." As, however, it is often impossible, owing to the rocky bottom or other "vise," to make a sill level with both, or to determine what was or is the bed of the river below the sill, the former is the more natural meaning. The notion on which such an enactment was no doubt founded was that fish would be able to get through the box or crib during the annual and weekly close season. But this was a misconception, and indeed in few cases fish are able to pass through so narrow an opening in high dams as these boxes afford. It was of infinitely greater importance to compel a proper and permanent fish pass to be made, in which case the fish would

have been independent of the occasional and often elusory advantage of trying to get through the open fish box during close time.

80. Construction of Spur Walls in Fishing Weirs or Fishing Mill Dams. â There shall not be attached to any box or crib in any fishing weir or fishing mill dam any spur or tail wall, leader, or outrigger of a greater length than twenty feet from the upper or lower side of such box or crib; and if any box or crib in any fishing weir or fishing mill dam has any walls, leaders, or outriggers in contravention of this section, the owner of the weir or fishing mill dam shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound for every day during the continuance thereof.

This enactment is confined to the case of artificial spurs or leaders. But it is of little consequence, as there are only two or three instances of spur walls or leaders attached to fishing weirs or fishing mill dams in England and Wales.

Central Authority.

31. General Superintendence of Fisheries by Home Office. â The general superintendence of the salmon fisheries throughout England shall be vested in the Home Office, and it shall be lawful for the Home Office to appoint two inspectors of fisheries for three years, to assign to them their duties, and to pay to them such salaries as may from time to time be determined by the commissioners of Her Majesty's treasury.

The Home Office may from time to time remove the said inspectors, and appoint other persons in their stead.

32. Annual Reports of Inspectors to be laid before Parliament. â The Home Office shall annually lay before parliament reports from the inspectors, which reports shall contain as far as may be practicable a statistical account of the fisheries, with such other information as may be collected, and suggestions offered for their regulation and improvement.

33. Justices at Sessions to appoint Conservators of Rivers. â It shall be lawful for the justices of the peace assembled at any general or quarter sessions of the peace from time to time to appoint conservators or overseers for the preservation of salmon, and enforcing for that purpose the provisions of this Act within the limits of the jurisdiction of such justices.

34. Justice may grant a Warrant to enter suspected Places. â It shall be lawful for any justice of the peace, upon an information on oath that there is probable cause to suspect any breach of the provisions of this Act to have been committed on any premises, or any salmon illegally taken or any illegal nets or other engines to be concealed on any premises, by warrant under his hand and seal, to authorize and empower any inspector, water bailiff, conservator, constable, or police officer to enter such premises for the purposes of detecting such offence, or such concealed fish, at such time or times, in the day or night, as in such warrant may be mentioned, and to seize all illegal engines, or any salmon illegally taken, that may be found on such premises; provided that no such warrant shall continue in force for more than one week from the date thereof.

24 25 VICT. c. 109, Â 35 39. 3G5

All that is material to be observed on this section is stated ante p. 160.

Legal Proceedings.

35. Recovery of Penalties. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 62.

36. Offences on Rivers may be tried in County on either Side, & Where any offence under this Act is committed in or upon any waters forming the boundary between any two counties, districts of quarter sessions or petty sessions, such offence may be prosecuted before any justice or justices of the peace in either of such counties or districts.

37. Offences committed on Sea Coast, where to be tried. & Any offence committed under this Act, on the sea coast or at sea, beyond the ordinary jurisdiction of any justice of the peace, shall be deemed to have been committed within the body of any county abutting on such sea coast or adjoining such sea, and may be tried and punished accordingly.

38. Sundry Clause for dredging. & Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice the legal right of any conservators, directors, commissioners, undertakers, persons, or body of persons corporate or unincorporate to dredge, scour, cleanse, or improve any navigable river, canal, or other inland navigation.

Repeal of Acts.

39. Repeal of Acts. & From and after the commencement of this Act there shall be hereby repealed the several Acts and parts of Acts set forth in the Schedule hereto, to the extent to which such Acts or parts of Acts are therein expressed to be repealed: Provided that such repeal shall not affect— 1. Any security duly given before this Act comes into operation: 2. Anything duly done before this Act comes into operation: 3. Any liability accruing before this Act comes into operation: 4. Any penalty, forfeiture, or other punishment incurred or to be incurred in respect of any offence committed before this Act comes into operation: 5. The institution of any legal proceeding or any other remedy for ascertaining, enforcing, or recovering any such liability, penalty, forfeiture, or punishment as aforesaid.

The repeal of many of the ancient Acts relating to salmon fisheries was an improvident step of the legislature, and has given rise to much evil. Under most of these old statutes many beneficial things might have been enforced against the owners of weirs which, owing to their indiscriminate repeal, now cannot be enforced. See per Lush, J., in *Garnett v. Backhouse*, L. R. 3 Q. B. 639; 37 L. R. Q. B. 1; 17 L. T. (n. s.) 170. The statutes relating to many important rivers protected the owners of fisheries against encroachments by millowners; and this statute, instead of wholly repealing these, should have extracted the valuable parts of the old Acts, and re-enacted them. By that course the owners of weirs could not have complained, because it would have put them in no worse position than they were before. But the statutes having been wholly repealed, the effect was to release the millowners from numerous obligations which could at any time prior have been enforced against them, and having now for eleven years enjoyed the benefit of this ample release, it is found impracticable to reimpose on them the conditions and burdens under which the old statutes kept them. It is always easier to continue and modify a burden than to take it off and then put it on again. The repeal of the Acts has also trebled the expenses that will fall on boards of conservators, for under the old Acts there could have been little difficulty in compelling owners of weirs to remedy a great number of prejudicial acts and practices at their own expense, instead of shifting this burden to the innocent parties, namely, the riparian owners and public fishermen. This vast increase of expense to boards

of conservators must long retard the accomplishment of reforms, without which any material progress is scarcely possible.

13 Ed. I. Stat. 1, c. 47. 25 Ed. III. Stat.

4 c. 4. 45 Ed. I. c. 2.

13 Rich. II. Stat.

1, c. 19. 17 Rich. II. c. 9.

1 Hen. IV. c. 12. 4 Hen. IV. c. 11, 2 Hen. VI. c. 15. 12 Ed. IV. c. 7. 11 Hen. VII. c. 5 14 15 Hen. VIII. c. 13.

23 Hen. VIII. c. 18.

1 Eliz. c. 17.

3 Car. I. c. 4.

3 Jas. I. c. 12. 30 Car. II. c. 9.

4 Ann. c. 21.

A penalty for taking of salmon at certain times of the year.

"New weirs shall be pulled down and not repaired."

The penalty of him that set-teth up or enhanceth weirs.

A confirmation of stat. 13 Ed. I. Stat. 1, c. 47.

Justices of peace shall be conservators of salmon.

A confirmation of former statutes touching weirs.

Commissions to justices to inquire of weirs and kydels.

No man shall fasten nets to anything over rivers.

An Act for the taking away weirs and fishgarthes.

Every man may pull down the weirs and engines in the Haven of Southampton, c.

A confirmation of the statute 11 Hen. VII. c. 5, and the same made perpetual.

For pulling down piles and fishgarths in the rivers Ouse and Humler.

An Act for the preservation of salmon and fry of fish.

An Act for continuance and repeal of divers statutes.

An Act for the better preservation of sea fish.

An Act for the better preservation of fishing in the river of Severn.

An Act for the preservation of salmon in the counties of Southampton and Wiltshire.

The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act.

The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act. The whole Act.

The whole Act. The whole Act.

In so far as it relates to salmon.

The first section of the Act.

The whole Act.

The whole Act.

The whole Act.

9 Ann. c. 26.

1 Geo. I. Stat. 2, c. 18.

23 Geo. II. c. 26. 33 Geo. II. c. 27. 18 Geo. III. c. 33. 37 Geo. III. c. 95 58 Geo. III. c. 43 6 7 Vict. c. 33.

11 12 Vict. C.52.

An Act for the improvement of fishery within the river of Thames.

An Act for the better preservation of salmon within several rivers.

An Act as to the better preservation of salmon in the river Ribble.

An Act to punish persons who take or sell unsize-able fish.

An Act for regulating the fisheries in the rivers Severn and Verniew.

An Act for the preservation of salmon in the counties of Southampton and Wilts.

An Act for preventing the destruction of the breed of salmon in the rivers of England.

An Act to limit the time for taking salmon in certain rivers.

An Act for preventing the destruction of the breed of salmon.

The second section of the Act.

Sects. 11 to 16 inclusive.

Sects. 7, 8, 9.

Sect. 13.

In so far as it relates to salmon.

In so far as it relates to salmon.

The whole Act.

The whole Act. The whole Act.

24 25 VICT. c. 109, schedule.

Private Acts relating to Salmon Fisheries.

SALMON EXPORTATION ACT, 26 VICT. c. 10.

An Act for prohibiting the Exportation of Salmon at certain Times.

20th April, 1863.

Whereas the sale of salmon within the United Kingdom is prohibited at various times; that is to say, if caught in England within the limits of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, 24 25 Vict. c. 109, is prohibited between the thirteenth day of September and the second day of February; if caught in any fishery district in Ireland is prohibited during such time as the capture of salmon is prohibited in that district; if caught in Scotland within the limits of "The Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862," 25 26 Vict. c. 97, is prohibited between the commencement of the latest and the termination of the earliest annual close time fixed for any district; if caught in the river Tweed, as defined by "The Tweed Fisheries Amendment Act, 1859," 22 23 Vict. c. 70, is prohibited between the fourteenth day of September and the fifteenth day of February: And whereas the capture or possession of foul or unseasonable salmon within the limits of the United Kingdom is prohibited at all times: And whereas the provisions of the said Acts are evaded by the exportation for sale in France and other foreign countries of salmon that cannot legally be sold within the limits of the United Kingdom: Be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:â 1. Short Title.â This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1863."

2. "Parts beyond Seas" defined. â No part of the United Kingdom, however situated with regard to any other part, shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to be parts beyond seas.

8. Em-port of Unclean or Unseasonable Salmon, or Salmon caught at certain Times. â No unclean or unseasonable salmon, and no salmon caught during the time at which the sale of salmon is prohibited in the district where it is caught, shall be

exported or entered for exportation from any part of the United Kingdom to parts beyond seas.

All salmon exported or entered for exportation in contravention of this section shall be forfeited, and the person exporting or entering the same for exportation shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding five pounds in respect of each salmon so exported or entered for exportation.

The burden of proving that any salmon entered for exportation from any part of the United Kingdom to parts beyond Seas between the third day of September and the thirtieth day of April following is not so entered in contravention of this Act shall lie on the jiei'son entering the same for exportation.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1870, 33 34 Vict. c. 33, Â 3. Further changes were made by the Act 1865, Â 65, but only as regards England and Wales; while this Act, so far as not changed, extends to Ireland and Scotland also, subject to any changes in their local Acts. See Scotch Act, 31 32 Vict. c. 123, Â 22.

The result of these changes is that whoever now exports or enters for exportation either unseasonable salmon or salmon that were caught in England, Scotland, or Ireland at a time when it was illegal to catch salmon at the place where they were caught, incurs a penalty of 5l. for each fish, besides forfeiture of the fish. If the fish shall be shipped or brought to any port in England or Wales for exportation between 3rd September and 30th April, without being entered for exportation before shipment, the person shipping or exporting either seasonable or unseasonable fish shall be liable to a penalty of 2l. per fish, besides forfeiture; and an officer of customs may, in England or Wales, open any parcel which he suspects contains fish. The two offences are distinct. The burden of proof is thrown on the exporter. The informer, whether an officer of the board of conservators or not, will be entitled by Â 4 to half of the penalties and proceeds of the forfeitures for exporting, *i.e.*, unseasonable salmon, but not of the penalties for exporting without first entering. See as to these last, Act 1873, Â 62. And there is no appeal to quarter sessions against any conviction under this statute, though there is an appeal against a conviction in England and Wales for exporting without first entering for exportation.

4. Recovery of Penalties. — All penalties under this Act may be recovered in England, except within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, as penalties under the Salmon Fisheries Act.

Act, 1861; in Ireland as penalties under the Act passed in the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and six, intitled "An Act to regulate the Irish Fisheries;" in Scotland, except within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, as penalties under the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862; and within the limits of the said Tweed Fisheries Act, in manner prescribed by "The Tweed Fisheries Act, 1857."

See Act 1861, Â 35, *ante*, p. 302.

28 29 VICT. c. 121.

An Act to amend "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861." 5th July, 1865.

Whereas by the thirty-third section of the "Salmon Fishery Act, 1861" (24 25 Vict. c. 109), it is provided that it shall be lawful for the justices of the peace

assembled at any general or quarter sessions of the peace from time to time to appoint conservators or overseers for the preservation of salmon, and enforcing for that purpose the provisions of the said Act within the limits of the jurisdiction of such justices: And whereas no funds are provided by the said Act for carrying into effect the purposes thereof, and no provisions are made for securing the co-operation of the conservators of diticrent counties where a river frequented by salmon borders on or passes through several counties: And whereas it is expedient to amend the said Act in respect of the foregoing particulars, and it is also expedient to make further provisions for the removal of illegal fixed engines, and otherwise to amend the said Act: Be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Preliminary.

1. Short Title. â This Act may be cited for all purposes as " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," and this Act and the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, may be cited together as the " Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865."

2. Construction of Act. â This Act, so far as is consistent with the tenor thereof, shall bo read as one with the Salmon Fishery Act, 18G1.

3. Dejhiiition of Terms. â In this Act and the Salmon Fishery Act, 18G1, the following words shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them, unless there be something in the subject or the context repugnant to such construction; that is to say, "River" shall include such portion of any stream or lake, with its tributaries, and such portion of any estuary, sea, or sea coast, as may from time to time be declared, in manner hereinafter provided, to belong to such river:

"Salmon river" shall mean any river as above defined frequented by salmon or young of salmon:

"Quarter sessions" shall include " general sessions:"

Any riding, division, or liberty of a county having a separate court of quarter sessions shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be a county.

Appointment of Conservators.

4. Power of Justices of County to apply for Formation of Fishery Districts. â The justices of a county at any court of quarter sessions held after the passing of this Act (due notice having been previously given according to the practice of the said sessions) may, by writing under the hand of their chairman, apply to one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state to form into a fishery district or districts all or any of the salmon rivers lying wholly or partly within their county, and the said secretary of state may form such district or districts accordingly, and may include in any district so formed any river or rivers, or parts thereof, although not situated in the county on behalf of which the application is made.

Under this and the sections following, fishery districts have been formed in England and Wales, but several sahnnon rivers have not yet been included in any districts. The places which are not included in fishery districts are and will be under great disadvantages compared with the fishery districts, for many of the powers of ett'ecting improvements mider the Acts 1865 and 2 c 1873 are expressly confiued to places which are within fishery-districts.

This and the sections following, as to the formation of fishery districts, must be read as modified by the Act 1873, *Â* 5, et seq.

It was held under this section that the secretary of state was not bound to follow the suggestions of quarter sessions, but had almost absolute discretion as to extending the Limits of a fishery district: *B. v. Grey*, 7 B. S. 434; L. R. 1 Q. B. 469; 35 L. J. Q. B. 171; 14 L. T. (n. s.) 477.

5. Limits of River and of Fishery District, how settled. *Â* The limits of a river shall be defined for the purposes of this Act, and a fishery district shall be formed, by a certificate under the hand of one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state, describing the limits of the river or district by a reference to a map or otherwise, as to the said secretary may appear expedient, but no such certificate shall be granted unless one month's previous notice of the intention of the said secretary to grant the same, and of the intended limits of the river or district, has been given by advertisement in such newspaper or newspapers published or circulating within the intended limits, and in such daily morning newspaper or newspapers published in London, as may be directed by the said secretary of state, and when a certificate has been granted a copy shall be advertised in such newspaper or newspapers.

6. Appointment of Conservators to District within Limits of One County. *Â* Where any fishery district lies wholly within any one county, the justices of that county in quarter sessions assembled shall appoint a board of conservators for that district, and shall name the time and place at which the first meeting of any board so appointed is to be held.

7. Committee for Fishery District in different Counties. *Â* Where a fishery district does not lie wholly within the limits of one county, the justices of any county within which any part of such district lies, assembled at any court of quarter sessions, may apply to the justices of every other county in that district to appoint at their next court of quarter sessions a fishery committee of three of their number, to form, with the fishery committee of the like number to be appointed at that sessions by the county making the application, a joint fishery committee for the district.

8. Application for Appointment of Joint Committee. *Â* An application under this Act by the justices of one county to the justices of another, in respect of the appointment of a joint fishery committee, shall be made by the clerk of the peace of the one county sending, within fourteen days after the holding of the sessions at which the application is resolved on, to the clerk of the peace of the other county, by post, a letter requiring the justices of the other county to appoint a fishery committee at their then next ensuing quarter sessions, and it shall be the duty of the clerk of the peace making the application, and of the clerk of the peace of every county to whom such application is sent, to add to the notice required by law to be given of the holding of such last mentioned sessions a notice of the appointment proposed to be made of a fishery committee.

9. Appointment of Fishery Committee. *Â* At the quarter sessions mentioned in the application the justices of each county shall appoint a fishery committee of three of their members; and any county neglecting to make such appointment shall be deemed to have concurred in any decision that may be arrived at by the fishery committees of the other counties, or of such of them as may appoint a fishery committee.

10. Notice of Appointment of Fishery Committee. â The clerk of the peace of every county shall, as soon as possible after the appointment of a fishery committee by his county, give notice by post to the clerk of the peace of every other county in the district, stating in such notice the names and addresses of the members composing the fishery committee of his county, and the clerk of the peace of the county that made the application for such appointment shall, in the notice sent by him, name a time and place at which the joint fishery committee for such district is to meet.

11. Proceedings of Joint Fishery Committee. â The said joint fishery committee, on meeting at the time and place aforesaid, shall elect a chairman, and the chairman elected at the first meeting shall, if he is present at the time appointed for holding any other meeting, be chairman of that meeting; if he is not so present the members present may choose any one of their number present to be chairman of such last-mentioned meeting.

A joint fishery committee may adjourn from time to time and from place to place, and one-third of the whole number of members appointed shall be a quorum.

Every question shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members voting on that question, and in the event of an equality of votes at any meeting the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

The proceedings of a joint committee shall not be invalidated by reason of there being any vacancy or vacancies in their body.

12. Meeting of Joint Fishery Committee. â The said joint fishery committee shall proceed to appoint a board of conservators for such district, and shall determine the following matters: (1.) The number of conservators to be appointed as a board. (2.) The number of members of the board to be appointed by each county in the district: (3.) The names of the first members of the board, distinguishing those who are to be considered as appointed by each county: (4.) The time and place at which the first meeting of the said board is to be held; (5.) The county by the quarter sessions of which the accounts of the board are to be audited, hereinafter referred to as the audit county. Any member of a joint committee may be appointed member of the board.

A board of conservators now consists of three classes:â 1. The persons appointed by the joint fishery committee, or by the court of quarter sessions; 2. The ex officio members described by the Act 1873, Â 26; 3. The representative members elected under the Act 1873, Â 29. As to altering the numbers of members, see Act 1873, Â 9.

13. Dissolution of a Joint Fishery Committee. â When a joint committee have completed their dispositions for the formation of a board of conservators for a district, they shall give notice by post of such dispositions to the clerks of the peace of all the counties in such district, and when such notice has been given the joint committee shall be dissolved.

14. Ex officio Members of Board. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 26-28.

15. Tenure of Office by Conservators. â The members of a board of conservators shall hold office for one year, and be 28 29 VICT. r. 121, Â 15â 18. 377 appointed annually at quarter sessions, and in the case of a board formed by a joint committee in the proportions fixed by that committee. Returning members shall be eligible for re-appointment; and if at the time when any annual appointment ought to take place

no such appointment is made the existing conservators shall remain in office until their successors are appointed.

Any casual vacancy occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise in the office of conservator may be filled up by the board, and the member chosen to fill such vacancy shall hold his office for such time only as the member vacating would have held the same if no vacancy had occurred.

16. Notice of Appointment of Conservators. â Notice of the first and of every subsequent appointment of a board of conservators, specifying the names and addresses of the persons appointed shall, in the case of a board appointed by the justices of a single county, be advertised by the clerk of the peace of that county in some newspaper published or circulated in such county, and in the case of a board appointed by a joint committee be advertised by the clerk of the peace of every county in the district in some newspaper published or circulated in that county.

The notice here referred to applies only to the names and addresses of the persons appointed as joint conservators by the joint fishery committee or the court of quarter sessions. There is no enactment requiring the names of ex officio members to be published, and the names of the representative members are to be published by the returning officer. Act 1873, Â 30.

17. Cesser of Powers of existing Conservators. â After the appointment of a board of conservators in pursuance of this Act in any district the powers of all conservators or overseers for the preservation of salmon, appointed in pursuance of any other Act of parliament, of charter or custom, and all powers of appointing the same, shall absolutely determine within the limits of the said district.

18. Rides as to Objections and Evidence. â No objection shall be made at any trial or in any legal proceeding to the validity of any orders or proceedings relating to the appointment of a board of conservators in any district after the expiration of three calendar months from the date of the advertisement of such appointment in the newspaper, and a copy of the newspaper containing the advertisement of the appointment of a board of conservators shall be receivable in all courts of justice and in all legal proceedings as evidence of such appointment having been made.

19. Provision as to common Estuary. â Where more than one salmon river not included in the same fishery district flows into a common estuary the said secretary of state may define the limits of such estuary, including therein any portion of the adjoining sea or sea coast, and form it into a separate district, and place the whole of such district, either temporarily or permanently, within the jurisdiction of any one or more of the boards having jurisdiction over the salmon rivers flowing into the estuary, or place such district under the jurisdiction of a board composed of representatives from the other boards, and may require such board or boards to pay a certain proportion of the licence duties received by them to any other board or boards.

20. Alterations of Fishery District. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 5, 6.

Board of Conservators, and their Officers.

21. Constitution of Board of Conservators. â A board of conservators shall be a body corporate, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to make contracts, and to sue and be sued in a common name.

22. *Proceedings of Board.* A board of conservators shall meet for the despatch of business, and shall from time to time make such regulations with respect to the election of a chairman of their meetings, the summoning, notice, place, management, and adjournment of their meetings, and generally with respect to the transaction and management of business, including the quorum at meetings, as they think fit, subject to the following conditions: a.) The first meeting after the formation of the district shall be held at the time and place fixed in manner provided by this Act: (.) An extraordinary meeting may be summoned at any time, on the requisition of three members of the board: (c.) The quorum to be fixed by the board shall consist of not less than three members: 28 29 VICT. c. 121, Â Â 22â 27. 379 (.) Every question shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members voting on that question; and in the event of an equality of votes the chairman for the time being shall have a second or casting vote.

23. *Appointment of Committees.* A board of conservators may appoint committees of their members, may fix a quorum for each committee, and may lay down rules for its guidance. Every question before a committee shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members voting on that question, and in the event of an equality of votes the chairman for the time being shall have a second or casting vote.

24. *Amendment of Section 18 of Salmon Fishery Act, 1861.* Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 39.

25. *Vacancies in Board and Defect in Qualification of Members.* No act or proceeding of a board of conservators shall be questioned on account of any vacancy or vacancies in their body; and no defect in the qualification or appointment of any person or persons acting as member or members of such board shall be deemed to vitiate any proceedings of such board in which he or they have taken part.

26. *Evidence of Proceedings at Meeting.* Repealed by Act 1873, Â 65. See Act 1873, Â 35.

27. *Enumeration of Powers of Board of Conservators.* A board of conservators shall have power within their district to do the following things, or such of them as they may in their discretion think expedient; that is to say, (1.) From time to time, by writing under the hand of the acting chairman for the time being of the board to appoint a sufficient number of water bailiffs and other officers, to assign to them their salaries and duties, and to remove any water bailiff or officer so appointed: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the said board of conservators from obtaining the services of additional constables under the Act th'h'd and fourth Victoria, chapter eighty-eight, section nineteen, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act; such constables, when appointed, to have all the powers and privileges of water bailiffs, and to be paid for their services by the said board: (2.) To issue such licences for fishing as are provided by this Act: (3.) To purchase by agreement, for the purpose only of removal, dams, fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, or fixed engines they may deem it expedient to remove for the benefit of the fisheries in their district: (4.) To take legal proceedings against persons violating the provisions of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865, or either of them, or for removing such weirs or other fixed engines as they may be advised are illegal: (5.) Generally to execute such works, do such acts, and incur such expenses as they may deem expedient to be executed,

done, or incurred for the protection and improvement of the salmon fisheries within their district, the increase of salmon, and the stocking of the waters in their district therewith, but so that it shall not be lawful for a board of conservators to pay to any member of the board any salary, fees, or other remuneration for his acting in any way as a member of or under the board: Provided that this section shall not authorize anything to be done which may injuriously affect any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation.

At the time this statute passed a very imperfect notion prevailed as to the duties of boards of conservators, as the most important of all is not expressly mentioned, namely, the duty of providing, or causing to be provided, fish passes over the weirs that obstruct the passage of salmon, and which mode of administering their funds lies at the foundation of all improvement. Thus conservators were not expressly empowered to make fish passes at the expense of the funds, and neither they nor their bailiffs or contractors are even now authorized to enter upon lands and repair such fish passes as the board may have made, or as others may have provided. As to altering a fish pass, see *Â 32*, pout. An attempt has been made, by amending the Act 1861, *I 23*, and by certain sections in the Act 1873, to enlarge these powers, but to a very inadequate extent. See Act 1873, *Â 23*, 46, et seq. A board has also certain additional powers conferred with regard to the making of bye-laws. See Act 1873, *Â 39*. A single conservator has no powers to do anything except to inspect a dam or mill race, and for this he must have the written authority of the board (see Act 1873, *Â 56*); or if he wishes to enter on lands to detect offences, he must obtain (after application on oath) a justice's warrant under this Act, *Â 31*, or a search warrant under Act 1861, *Â 34*.

28. Mort'idfie of Licence Dutie. i. *â* A board of conservators may, for the purpose of defraying any costs, charges, and expenses incurred or to be incurred by them under the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1801, 1865, with the consent of one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state, borrow and take up, at interest on the credit of the licensed duties authorized to be imposed by them, or of any other property belonging to them, any sums of money necessary for defraying such costs, charges, and expenses; and for the purpose of securing the repayment of any sums of money so borrowed, together with such interest as aforesaid, the board of conservators may mortgage and assign over to the persons by or on behalf of whom such sums are advanced the said duties and property, or any part thereof; and the clauses of the Commissioners' Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to mortgages to be created by the commissioners, shall form part of and be incorporated with this Act, and any mortgagee or assignee may enforce payment of his principal and interest by appointment of a receiver.

The Avord. s " license duty " include the additional duty that may be imposed for improvements. See Act 1873, *Â 57*.

29. Audit of Accounts of Board. *â* An account of the receipts and disbursements of every board of conservators, in such form and with such particulars as may be required by the com't of quarter sessions that appoints the board, or in the case of a joint board by the court of quarter sessions of the audit county, shall be laid annually before such courts of quarter sessions as aforesaid, and the justices assembled at such courts may disallow any item that they consider to be illegal.

80. Power of Water Bailiff for Protection of Fisheries. â Repealed by Act 1873, Â G5. See Act 1873, Â 36.

31. Order for Entry of Water Bailiff on Land. â Where it appears to any justice of the peace, on the application of any conservator or water bailiff made on oath, that such conservator or bailiff has good reason to suspect that Acts in contravention of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1801 and 1805, are being or are likely to be done on any land situate on or near to a salmon river, the justice may, by order under his hand, authorize such conservator or bailiff, during a limited period, to be specified in such order, not exceeding twenty-four hours, to enter upon and remain on such land during any hours of the day or night for the purpose of detecting the persons guilty of the aforesaid acts; and no conservator or water bailiff entering or remaining on any land in pursuance of such order shall be deemed to be a trespasser; but this section shall not affect any other powers of search conferred by the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865.

The power here vested in a justice can only be exercised on information given on oath as to the specific grounds of suspicion, and the order shall cease to protect the conservator or bailiff after twenty-four hours from the date of its being granted by the justice. The power of search given by the Act 1861, Â 34, does not authorize the constable or bailiff to remain on premises after the search is made, and is applicable to illegal acts that have been already done, but the present power contemplates illegal acts that are in progress or are likely to be done on land. The places that may be entered under this order must be " land on or near to a salmon river," and premises are not included. " Land on a river," though an inartificial expression, can only be interpreted to mean the bed of a river, and " lands near " mean the banks of a river, or within a few yards from the river; but the distance from the river will depend considerably on the peculiar circumstances of each case.

There is no power to arrest any person committing illegal acts except those mentioned in the Act 1873, Â 38, and during the night. The ordinary powers given to a water bailiff are stated in the Act 1873, Â 36. As to mere poachers, see ante, pp. 73, 79, 122.

82. Alteration of Fish Pass or Free Gap. â On application to the secretary of state by any board of conservators, setting forth that any fish pass or free gap within their district, under the provisions of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, is in their opinion capable of improvement, the said secretary of state may direct any alteration in the said fish pass or free gap, or may direct a new fish pass or free gap to be made in another site, and the board of conservators shall defray all costs, charges, and expenses attending the alteration or erection of any such fish pass or free gap, and for the purposes of this section, where a river is divided into separate branches, each branch shall be considered as a separate river: Provided that no injury shall be done under the exercise of the powers given by this section to the supply of water to or of any navigable river, canal, or other inland navigation.

This section applies only to fish passes or free gaps already made in a fishery district under the provisions of the Act 1861. As to free gaps, see Act 1861, Â 27. The only provisions of that Act on the subject of fish passes are Â 12 and 23. This section does not therefore apply to any fish pass which has been made by a volunteer,

or by the owner of a weir on his own property, without the assistance of the secretary of state, nor to any fish pass made not in a fishery district. As regards the nature of the alteration, as no larger power is expressly given to the secretary of state than he has under the Act 1861, Â 23, the alteration can only be such as will not injure the milling power. Though the proviso omits to specify injury to mills, this is nevertheless implied from the language used in both Acts.

See also Act 1873, Â 52, as to further provisions on this subject.

Licences.

33. Issue of Licences. â In any fishery district subject to the control of a board of conservators licences shall be granted at fixed prices to all persons using any rod and line for fishing for salmon, and in respect of all fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, putts, putchers, nets, or other instruments or devices, except rods and lines, whereby salmon are caught; and the produce of such licences shall be applied in defraying the expenses of carrying into effect in such district the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1801 and 1865.

The board cannot refuse to grant a license to any one who tenders the price or license duty. See Â 34, sub-sect. 5. In case of refusal a mandamus seems the appropriate remedy. In rivers not in a fishery district, no license duty can be imposed.

34. Bides as to Licences. â The following rules shall be observed with respect to the licences granted in pursuance of this Act; that is to say, (1.) and (2.) (Repealed by Act 1873, Â G5.) (3.) The approval of the said secretary of state to a scale of licences for fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, putts, putchers, nets, and other instruments or devices as aforesaid shall not be given for any district unless one month's previous notice of the intention of the board to apply for such approval has been given by advertisement, stating the scale of licence duties proposed by the conservators, in some one or more public newspaper or newspapers circulating in the district: (4.) Any person for the time being entitled to an exclusive right of fishing for salmon in any river or part of a river may, upon application to the conservators of the district, obtain a general licence; and such general licence shall enable the licensee or any person authorized by him in writing under his hand, without any other licence, to fish for salmon in any legal manner in such river or part of a river, but it shall not be of any validity beyond the limits to which it refers: There shall be paid for such general licence such sum as the conservators may from time to time determine, with the sanction of the said secretary of state, having regard to the extent and productiveness of the fishery, and to the nature of the instruments or devices used for catching the fish: (5.) All persons demanding to purchase licences, and tendering to any person appointed by the board to distribute the same the amount of licence duty to be paid under the provisions of this Act, shall be entitled to receive the same without any question or objection whatsoever. But no licence shall confer any right to fish in any place or at any time in or at which the licensee is not otherwise entitled to fish; nor shall the grant of a licence be held to make any fishing weir, fishing mill dam, putts, putchers, net, or other instrument or device legal that would otherwise be illegal, or to imply any recognition of the legality of any such instrument: (6.) All licences granted in pursuance of this Act shall be available only during the fishing season of the year for which they are granted: (7.) Licences granted in pursuance of this Act shall be issued by the conservators of each

district in such form as may be approved by the secretary of state, and be distributed in such manner as they may from time to time direct: 28 29 VICT. c. 121, Â Â 34â 36. 385 (8.) Tlio conservators of a district shall, on their first appointment, give notice, by advertisement in one or more newspaper or newspapers published or circulating in their district, of a time, not being less than three months after such appointment, at the expiration of which it will be illegal to fish for salmon in that district without a licence, and shall state in the notice a place or places within their district where licences may be procured; and the production of a copy of a newspaper containing any such advertisement as aforesaid shall be conclusive evidence, as respects a fishery district, of due notice having been given of the time after which it will be illegal in that district to fish for salmon without licences.

The first two sub-sections of this section were repealed by the Act 1873, Â 65, but were re-enacted in nearly the same words by the Act 1873, Â 21.

The scale of licenses, when first coming into force, must be approved by the secretary of state, in conformity with subsections 3 and 7. The variation of the scale is regulated by Act 1873, Â 25.

A general license is obtainable by the occupier of the salmon fishery in a river, and cannot be refused by the conservators. The board has a liiuilt discretion as to fixing the sum for such license, and this sum must be approved by the secretary of state; but the sum must be reasonable, and if unreasonable, the applicant would have a remedy by mandamus, 85. 'Penalty un fishing with Rod without Licence. â From and after a time to be appointed as aforesaid in a fishery district, any person fishing in that district with a rod and line for salmon without a proper licence shall be liable to a penalty of not less than double the amount to be paid for the requisite licence, and not exceeding five pounds. See Act 1873, Â 22.

36. Pencdtij on fishiiig at Weirs or uith Xets vithout Licence. â From and after a time to be appointed as aforesaid in a fishery district, any person using within that district any fishing weir, fishing mill dam, putt, putcher, net, or other instrument or device, not being a rod and line, for catching salmon, without havhig a proper licence for the same, shall be hable to a penalty of not less than double the amount to be paid for the requisite licence, and not exceeding twenty pounds.

See also Act 1873, Â 22.

This section does not impose a penalty on persons who take salmon by hand, or in some ingenious manner not described in the scale of licenses. But see now the Act 1873, Â 22. In many, if not all, tishing weirs and fishing mill dams, as well as many fixed igines, the fisherman uses a small hand-net or draft-net for taking the fish out of the fish hox or pool, and as this is incidental to and part of the use of the principal instrument or means of catching the fish, no license duty is payable for such hand-net when used only as auxiliaiy to the principal means of capture. The scale of license duties is in Act 1873, third Sched.

The license to use a net or movable instrument is always a personal license, and in respect of the particular kind of net or instrument, and does not in any way restrict the licensee to the use of any one net, and he may, should his own net break or be lost, use any other of the same denomination and size (if any size is defined by bye-law),

so long as more than one net are not used in respect of each license at any given time. The same rule applies to a fishing-rod.

It was held that putts which were so constructed, that though said to be used for catching only shrimps, they could, by the withdrawing of a wire grating, be capable of catching salmon, were subject to license duty, as putts were specially described in the statute as fixed engines for catching salmon: *Lyne v. Fen7iell*, 9 B. S. 65; L. R. 3 Q. B. 156; 37 L. J. Q. B. 119; 18 L. T. (n. s.) 55; 32 J. P. 422.

Where four persons were using two licensed nets in company, and two of the four had each a license for a net of that description, being a net which required two men to work it, and in course of their working, the two licensed persons worked one net, and the two imlicensed jpersons worked the other net, it was held that the unlicensed persons were not liable to a penalty, because the joint use was one transaction: *Lewis v. Arthur*, 12 L. T. (n. s.) 66; 35 J. P. 485.

37. Production of Licence. â Any licensee under this Act on producing his licence, any conservator on producing a certificate of his being a conservator, or any water bailiif appointed in pursuance of this Act on producing the instrument appointing him, or any constable, if authorized so to do by the justices in quarter sessions, may require any person found fishing with a rod and line, fishing weir or tishmg mill dam, not, or other instrument, to produce his licence; and 28 29 VICT. c. 121, Â Â 37â 39. 387 the person required to produce the same shall, if he do not produce the same, or make a reasonable excuse for the non-production thereof, be liable to a penalty not exceeding one pound.

The power here given of demanding production of the license can only be available if the person demanding first prodiiices his own license or certificate of l)j'ing a conservator or bailiif. The latter must thus not only have the license or certificate in his possession at the time of asking, but he must first show it to the person asked, otherwise he is powerless. It is not enough that the person asked knows who the person asking is. The person asked can only be asked when he is found on the spot in the act of using a rod or fixed apparatus, and if he has left the ground, or if the operation of using the apparatus is finished, the power of asking is gone. It is singuhir that a person using a fixed engine is onutted from this section, and therefore he cannot be made liable for not producing his license; for the words " or other instrument" must be construed as meaning only some movable instrument of the same nature as a net. A reasonable excuse for non-production of the license may be that the man's master keeps it, or that he left it at home, or has lost it, and so foith. There is no penalty imposed for giving a false excuse.

38. County of City or County of Town included under the Term County. â A county of a city or county of a tovrail shall for the pui-poses of this Act be deemed to be a county; and any Act hereby authorized to be done by or to the justices of a county in quarter sessions assembled shall, in the case of a county of a city or county of a town, be done by or to the council of such city or town assembled at any meeting of council; and any Act to be done by or to the clerk of the peace may be done by or to the town clerk or other like officer; and notice of a meeting of the council given in the usual way shall be equivalent to the notice of quarter sessions required to be given in the case of the justices of a county.

Fixed Engines.

89. Amendment of Provisions relating to Fixed Engines. " Fixed engines " shall in this Act and the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, include any net or other implement for taking fish fixed to the soil, or made stationary in any other way, not being a fishing weir or fishing mill dam: and whereas by the eleventh section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, it is provided that the said section shall not affect any ancient right or mode of fishing as exercised at the time of the passing of the Act by virtue of any grant or charter or immemorial usage: Be it enacted, that the said provisions shall extend to exempt from the said eleventh section such fixed engines only as were in use for catching salmon during the open season of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, in pursuance of an ancient right or mode of fishing as lawfully exercised during such open season, by virtue of any grant or charter or immemorial usage, which last-mentioned fixed engines are hereinafter referred to as privileged fixed engines. But inasmuch as in certain cases fixed engines in use during the four years previous to 1861, or one of such years, may from temporary causes have been out of use during the year 1861, and it is expedient to provide for such cases, it is hereby declared, that if it is proved to the satisfaction of the special commissioners appointed under this Act that any fixed engine not in use during the open season of 1861 was in use during one of the said four years, proof of its user during one of such four years may be substituted for proof of its user during the open season of 1861; so, nevertheless, that no person shall by proving the use of different fixed engines during the said years be allowed to be entitled to a number of privileged engines exceeding the greatest number of such engines in use by him during some one of the years 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861.

See notes to Act 1861, Â 11.

Many fixed engines, though otherwise apparently legal, were declared illegal by the special commissioners, on the ground that they were not used during one of the years 1857 to 1861.

40. Commissioners to inquire as to fixed Engines. " Subject to such appeal as is hereinafter mentioned, the special commissioners appointed under this Act, hereinafter referred to as the commissioners, may inquire into the legality of all fixed engines erected or used for catching salmon within the limits of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865, and abate and remove all such as are not proved to their satisfaction to be privileged.

The jurisdiction of the commissioners being confined to fixed engines used for catching salmon, they were unable to deal with fixed engines used for sea fish, or mainly for sea fish. The legality of these, as well as fishing weirs in tidal rivers, depends on substantially the same principles as engines and weirs used for catching salmon. Therefore, fixed engines for catching sea fish have not been interfered with by the Salmon Fishery Acts, and there is no special and summary mode of deciding their legality, it does not follow that they are legal, though many still exist around the coast of England and Wales.

The doctrine that long exclusive user of a fishery, in a navigable tidal river or in the sea, without contradictory evidence, warrants the presumption that a grant from the Crown originated the fishery, or that otherwise it was legal, has been long settled. See

ante, p. 20: *Malcolmson v. O'Dea*, 10 H. L. C. 593; 9 L. T. (n. s.) 93; *Rawstone v. Backhouse*, L. R. 3 C. P. 67; 37 L. J. C. P. 26; *Gann v. JWhitstahle*, 11 H. L. C. 192.

Where the evidence of long user does not go back as far as living memory, it is for the discretion of the court in the circumstances to presume or not that fixed engines for fishing had existed from time immemorial: *Holfonl v. George*, L. R. 3 Q. B. 639; 37 L. J. Q. B. 185; 18 L. T. (n. s.) 817.

A several fishery in tidal waters, which had been forfeited to the Crown, might be regranted by the Crown, and is not taken to have merged at that date: *Duke of Northumberland v. Howjhton*, L. R. 5 Ex. 127; 39 L. J. Ex. 66; 22 L. T. (n. s.) 491.

An Elizabethan survey is good evidence of the state of possession of a several fishery in tidal waters alleged to be legal, and such a fishery cannot be claimed as appurtenant to a right of pasture: *Edgar v. Special Commissioners for English Fisheries*, 23 L. T. (n. s.) 128; 35 J. P. 822.

The meaning of the words "ancient right of fishery" is illustrated in notes to Act 1861, Â 11.

41. Certificate as to privileged Engines. â Where a claim is made by any person on behalf of a fixed engine that it is privileged, the commissioners shall, on pi'oof being given to their satisfaction that such engine is privileged, certify to that effect, stating in the certificate the situation, size, and description of the engine. A certificate given in pursuance of this section shall be deemed to be an order of the commissioners, and to be subject to appeal as such. If unappealed from, or as confirmed or amended on appeal, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence that the engine is a privileged engine within the meaning of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865, but the certificate shall not render any engine legal that would be otherwise illegal by reason of its being injurious to navigation.

The certificates of the special commissioners, which, by Â 53, ai'e all registered with the clerk of the peace of each county, are now conclusive evidence of the legality of fixed engines, and though they are not conclusive as against the public right of navigation, it will be found that the question of navigation will not interfere with any of such certificates. The legakty depended on statutes, some of which were passed for the joint protection of salmon and of navigation, and it was sometimes impossible to sever these two elements, but in point of fact few of them as certified are injurious to navigation, nor is it likely that a fixed engine found by the commiissioners to be legal will ever be found illegal by reason of its being injurious to navigation. Though the certificate of the commissioners is conclusive of the legality of fixed engines, there is no enactment that all fixed engines shall be deemed illegal which have not been so certified; and hence, if there are any fixed engines which have not been tried by the commissioners, it does not follow that these are illegal.

It was no part of the duty, nor was it in the power of the commissioners to decide who were the owners of the fixed engines found legal, though in some cases disputes arose as to ownership: all that the certificate decides is that the particular fixed engine is legal, whoever is the projjrietor, the right of property being left in the same position as before the decision of the commissioners. The certificates in all instances state the situation, size, and description of the engine, and in most of the important cases embody maps of the locality; but questions may hereafter arise as to the site of such

engines, and how far it may be competent to the owners to alter the site in consequence of the changes that may take place in the courses of rivers and channels. The statute gave no direction on this subject.

42. Commissioners to inquire as to Fishing Weirs. â Subject to such appeal as is hereinafter mentioned, the commissioners may inquire into the legality of all fishing weirs and fishing mill dams throughout the limits of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 18G1 and 18G5, and shall remove such fishing weirs, and cause to be rendered incapable of catching fish such fishing mill dams as are in contravention of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1801; provided that where a fishing weir is illegal only by reason of its not having a free gap as required by law, or a fishing mill dam is illegal only by reason of its not having a fishing pass attached thereto as required by law, this section shall not empower the commissioners to remove such fishing weir if an undertaking be entered into, to the satisfaction of the commissioners, by the owner or other person interested in such weir, to make a legal free gap therein within a reasonable time to be prescribed by the commissioners, and a free gap is made accordingly, or to cause to be rendered incapable of ditching fish such fishing mill dam if a like undertaking be entered into to attach a fish pass thereto, as required by law, within a reasonable time to be prescribed by the commissioners, and such fish pass be attached accordingly-

Though the powers conferred on the special commissioners by the 4()th, 41st, and the)resent section were amply sufficient to enable fixed engines and fishing weirs to be effectually and finally disposeel of, it was altogether different as regards fishing mill (lams, tlie precise character of which, both in point of law and fact, was not clearly apprehended when this Act was passed. If a fixed engine was illegal the Act rightly dii-ected that it was to be utterly removed; if it was legal it was to remain, and nothing more was retiured, for a fixed engine does not interfere with the passage of fish. As to a fishing weir, which is a structure which extends across a river, tidal or non-tidal, having the object, first, of stop Â ing the passage of all the fish, and secondly, of thereby driving them into a trap or fishing box, which is part of the structure, such weir invarial ly stopped the passage of fish, and did great mischief independently of catching the fish. But as the Act 1861, Â 27, absolutely required a free gap to le made in all fishing weus, however ancient and legal these Dii; ht have previously been without a gap, tliis enactment efiec-tually took the sting ou t of these structmes. The free gap in fact has so destroyed the catching jjower of these weirs, and at the same tune has so ett'ectually provided a constant means of passa 'e for all fisli, that the weirs have been rendered all but worthless, and the expense of kee jiiig them up, considering the small returns now receivable, will probably ultimately lead to their entire discontinuance. The fishing weirs were thus practically confiscated without any compensation to the o Tiers.

But as to fishing mill dams the law was altogether different. These dams ha 'e a tlueefold object; first, to supply the mill; seconelly, to stop all the fish; thirdly, to drive the fisli or part of them into the fish trap or box, which is part of the structure. The Act of 1861 did not conqi-el a fish jtass to be made in a fishing mill d; mi, because that was probably thought at that time certain to greatly impair and for some months destroy the mill- ing power. All that was required by that Act was that before the fish box or trap which usually constituted part of the structure should be used again for fishing,

a fish pass must first be made as described in Act 1861, Â 12. The pass was to have always water running through it, so as to let fish passâ a condition which necessarily impairs the milling power in nearly every case. The consequence of the legislature imposing this injurious condition has been that the millowners have done nothing at all in the way of making a fish pass, being content to forego the use of their fish box rather than injure their mill. But very little reflection will show that by this course no good whatever was done to the fisheries, for so long as a fish pass was not provided, the dam was as hurtful as ever, and the mere non-user of the fish box was practically of no consequence as compared with the want of a fish pass. The only case in which the Act 1861 absolutely compelled the owner to make a fish pass under a penalty was under Â 25, where the fishing mill dam had been built since 1861, or raised in height so as to prevent greater obstacles to the passage of fish. By some strange oversight the Act 1865, Â 42, only gave power to the commissioners to enforce a fish pass in the latter case; but as no such cases existed, and all the fishing mill dams were found to be more ancient than 1861, and generally in a legal state, it followed that the commissioners could not enforce a fish pass in any case, nor could any other authority do so. Hence fishing mill dams remain just as they were before the Act 1861, there being no power to compel a fish pass; and it will be seen that the Act 1873 does not advance the matter, and that these dams must continue to obstruct the passing of fish as much as ever.

The legality of a fishing mill dam depends in great measure on the application of the Prescription Act, where no local statute had applied to the river where such dam was built. But many such local statutes applied to the main rivers. As the commissioners could not in general, under the defective powers of the Act 1865, do anything but declare that the fishing box was legal, these dams must remain, as before, the great stumbling-block in the way of opening up the breeding-ground of each river. If appropriate powers had been given to the commissioners, not only the legality of the fishing box, but all other questions arising out of the height and form and modern alterations of each weir, and of the necessary fish pass to allow fish to pass without any injury to the mill, might have been settled in a short and inexpensive way, whereas there is at present a want of any appropriate machinery to dispose of the continuing injury which is done to the fisheries by these obstructive dams, and until this injury ceases there cannot be much progress made in increasing the stock of fish.

The law bearing on the mutual rights and liabilities of mill-owners and fishery owners embraces a wide field of learning, and some recent cases may be noticed.

What is an enjoyment as of right depends on the circumstances of each case, but while there is unity of possession, then there can be no such enjoinder: *Wilson v. Stanley*, 12 Ir. C. L. 345; *Ladyman v. Grave*, 25 L. T. (N. s.) 52.

A right of fishery in another man's waters cannot be sustained if it is a claim in gross, and not annexed to lands: *IShuttleworth V. Le Fleming*, 19 C. B. 687; 34 L. J. Ch. 309.

Abandonment of an easement in reference to water may be presumed after non-user for twenty years: *Crossley v. Lightowler*, 3 L. R. Eq. 279; 2 L. R. Ch. Ap. 478; 36 L. J. Ch. 584; 16 L. T. (n. s.) 438. Whether a riparian's right to water is capable of being severed from the land has been questioned. See *Stockport Waterworks Company v.*

Potter, 3 H. C. 300; Nuttall V. Bracewell, L. R. 2 Exch. 1; 36 L. J. Exch. 1; 15 L. T. (n. s.) 313. The enjoyment under the Prescription Act must have been as of right in contradistinction to a license: Mills V. Maym- of Colchester, L. R. 2 C. P. 476; 36 L. J. C. P. 21U; 16 L. T. (n. s.) 626; L. R. 3 C. P. 575. And it must be continuous: Walls v. Kelson, 24 L. T. (n. s.) 209. An inhabitant accustomed to be supplied with water from a stream has a right of action against an upper riparian owner who diverts the flow of water, though no actual damage has accrued: Harrop v. Hirst, L. R. 4 Exch. 43; 37 L. J. Exch. 207; 19 L. T. (n. s.) 426. As to a river boundary line between counties changing its course, see Ford v. Lacey, 7 H. N. 151; 7 Jur. (n. s.) 685, Exch.

A riparian owner cannot do anything in the bed of a river which tends to alter the volume of water, so as to drive it towards his neighbour's lands opposite to him: Bickett v. Morris, L. R. 1 Sco. Ap. 47; 14 L. T. (n. s.) 835; Eduston v. Crossley, 18 L. T. (n. s.) 15.

A several fishery in a tidal river which has forsaken its channel cannot be followed into the new channel, and so be continued entire: Mayor of Carlisle v. Graham, L. R. 4 Exch. 361; 21 L. T. (N. 8.) 333. Where plaintiff had a several fishery in a tidal river, and the defendant inclosed the bed of the river so as to injure the fishery, the court granted an injunction without deciding who was the owner of the soil: Bridges v. Wright, 11 L. T. (n. s.) 652. And in a tidal river one riparian owner may obtain an injunction against another for erecting a jetty which would have the effect of throwing the current to the plaintiff's side of the river: Attorney General v. Earl of Lonsdale, L. R. 7 Eq. 377; 38 L. J. Ch. 377; 20 L. T. (n. 8.) 64; Marquis of Exeter v. Earl of Devon, L. R. 10 Eq. 232; 23 L. T. (N. s.) 382.

Disputes as between riparian owners, and between them and statutory commissioners abstracting water, depend on too many special circumstances to be stated shortly. See Walter. Mayor of Manchester, 6 H. N. 665; 30 L. J. Exch. 293; Nuttall V. Bracewell, 4 H. C. 714. A company entitled by statute as riparian owners may abstract water from a navigable river for domestic use, but not for other purposes, such as watering engines: Attorney General v. Great Eastern Railway Company, L. R. 6 Ch. Ap. 572; 23 L. T. (n. s.) 344. Where canal companies acquire power to divert water from A.'s land, and then cease to divert it, A. cannot bring any action for consequential damages, as his claim was not one of right: Mason v. Shrewsbury Railway Company, L. R. 6 Q. B. 578; 40 L. J. Q. B. 293; 25 L. T. (n. s.) 239. The rights of statutory commissioners over the water of a navigable river are often greater than those of a riparian owner: Medway Navigation v. E. Romney, 9 C. B. (n. s.) 575; 30 L. J. C. P. 236; 4 L. T. (n. s.) 87; Cracknall v. Mayor of Thetford, L. R. 4 C. P. 629; 30 L. J. C. P. 353.

Questions of excessive abstraction of water from a river depend on the peculiar circumstances of each case: Miner v. Gilmour, 12 Moore P. C. 156; Lord Norbury v. Kitchin, 7 L. T. (n. s.) 685; 15 L. T. (n. s.) 501; Staffordshire Canal Company v. Birmingham Canal Company, L. R. 1 H. L. 254; 35 L. J. Ch. 254; 11 L. T. (n. s.) 364, 647; Grand Junction Canal Company V. Shugar, L. R. 6 Ch. Ap. 483; 24 L. T. (n. s.) 402.

Where an obstruction to the flow of water to a mill is caused, the matter may sometimes be remedied *brevi manu*, that is, by forcible removal or abatement, or

doing something equivalent, so as to obviate the injury: *Roberts v. Rose*, 33 L. J. Exch. 241; 10 L. T. (n. s.) 624; *Saxhy v. Manchester Railway Company*, 19 L. T. C. P. 640.

Where a person enlarges his right to take water from a river, he does not forfeit that which he had legally acquired by doing some wrongful act: *Hill v. Code*, 26 L. T. C. P. 185.

It was held that the commissioners had no jurisdiction to deal with a dam which had no special box or adaptation of its structure for catching salmon, for such was not a fishing mill dam within the meaning of the Act 1861: *Garnett v. Backhouse*, L. R. 3 Q. B. 639; 37 L. J. Q. B. 1; 17 L. T. (n. s.) 170. It was also held that the old statutes, including 12 Ed. 4, c. 7, did not prohibit fixed weirs for catching salmon being erected in non-navigable rivers; *IFlyte v. Rolle*, 8 B. S. 116; L. R. 3 Q. B. 286; 37 L. J. Q. E. 105; 17 L. T. (n. s.) 560; *Lord Leconfield v. Lord Lonsdale*, L. R. 5 C. P. 657; 39 L. J. C. P. 305; 23 L. T. (n. S.) 155.

But whether a claim to such a weir would be within the Prescription Act is left undecided: *Ibid.*

â 43. Notice of Courts of Commissioners. â The commissioners shall advertise in some daily morning London newspaper, and in some newspaper circulating in the district in which any salmon river or part of a river is situate, notice of the place where and time when they will be prepared to hold a court for determining the legality of all fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, and fixed engines on that river or part of a river.

The advertisement in the said newspapers shall be inserted at least twenty-eight days before the time at which any court mentioned therein is appointed to be held. The commissioners may alter any place or time mentioned in such advertisements, on giving notice of such alteration in such manner as the commissioners may think best calculated to insure to the parties interested knowledge of such alteration. The above-mentioned advertisement shall be in the Form marked A. in the second Schedule hereto, or as near thereto as circumstances admit. In addition to the foregoing advertisements, the commissioners, at least fourteen clear days before entering upon an inquiry as to the legality of any fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine, shall serve a notice on the owner or one of the owners of such fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine to appear before them at a place and time mentioned in such notice.

Service of a notice under this section may be made either by delivering the notice personally to such owner, or leaving it at or sending it by post in a registered letter to his last known place of abode, or, if the owner cannot be ascertained after due inquiry, by posting a copy of the notice on the fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine that forms the subject of the inquiry.

The notice shall be in the form marked B. in the second schedule hereto, or as near thereto as circumstances admit, and may be addressed as appears in the said schedule, and need not contain the name of any person.

For the purposes of this section any person for the time being receiving the profits or a share of the profits of the salmon caught by such fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine shall be deemed to be the owner, but in addition to any owner the commissioners shall hear any person appealing before them, whether legally interested or not in a fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine.

Any person obstructing or refusing access to any officer of the commissioners who may be desirous of posting any notice in pursuance of this section on a fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence, and any person defacing, destroying or removing any such notice shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings; and a notice shall be deemed to have been duly posted where the non-posting thereof has been occasioned by some person obstructing or refusing access to the officer about to post the same.

The production of a copy of a newspaper containing any advertisement required by this Act shall, for the purposes of this Act, be evidence of such advertisement having been given at the time at which the newspaper bears date.

44. Hearing as to Legality of fixed Engines. â On the appearance of the owner or other persons for or against any fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine, and after hearing what, if anything, is alleged by him or them, or on his or their behalf, or in the absence of any such persons, if they or any of them do not appear, and the commissioners are satisfied by evidence on oath that the notices required by the Act have been given, the commissioners shall decide as to the legality or illegality of the fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine, and in the event of their decision being in favour of its illegality they may, by warrant under their hands, order the owner to remove a fishing weir, or render incapable of catching fish a fishing mill dam, where the law requires such fishing weir or fixed engine to be removed, or such fishing mill dam to be rendered incapable of catching fish, to the satisfaction of the commissioners, within a reasonable time to be prescribed in the order, not being less than three months; and in case the owner fails to comply with the directions of the order, then the commissioners may, by warrant under their hands authorize any constable or other person, at the expense of the owner, to carry their order into effect. The commissioners may sell any fixed engine, or any materials belonging to any fishing weir or fishing mill dam, that are removed in pursuance of this Act, and apply the proceeds of the sale in defraying any costs, charges, and expenses incident to carrying their order into effect in reference to such fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or fixed engine, and shall render the surplus, if any, to the persons they may deem entitled thereto.

Provided that if it is proved to the satisfaction of the commissioners that any posts or other materials belonging to an illegal fishing weir or fixed engine ordered to be removed may be capable of being used by any person as evidence of title to any foreshore or other land, the commissioners shall, instead of ordering the entire removal of such posts or materials, require the fishing weir or fixed engine to be destroyed so far only as they may in their discretion think necessary in order to prevent its being used for fishing purposes.

45. Appeal from Decision of Special Commissioners. â K any person feels aggrieved with any decision of the commissioners the person aggrieved may appeal as follows; that is to say, 1. The appeal shall be to one of Her Majesty's superior courts of law at Westminster.

2. The appeal shall be by special case stating the facts and the grounds for the decision.

3. The special case shall be settled by the commissioners upon the application of the appellant to be made in writing within fourteen days after the delivery of the decision, and not afterwards; and if the appellant be dissatisfied with the special case as settled by the commissioners, he may have the same settled by a judge of one of the said superior courts, on summons, at chambers.

4. Before the delivery of the case to the appellant he shall enter into a recognizance before the said commissioners or a justice of the peace, with or without sureties, and in such sum as the commissioners or the justice think fit, conditioned to prosecute the appeal without delay the appeal, and to submit to the judgment of the appellate court, and to pay such costs as may be awarded.

5. The special case shall be signed by the commissioners, and shall be delivered to the appellant by the commissioners.

6. On the receipt of the special case the appellant shall within fourteen days transmit by post or otherwise the original case to the proper officer of the appellate court.

7. When a party gives in good faith notice of an appeal under this section, but omits through mistake to do some act necessary to perfect the appeal, the appellate court may permit an amendment on such terms as it thinks just.

8. After the decision of the appellate court has been given on a case stated as aforesaid, the commissioners shall have the same powers to enforce that decision, when affirmed or amended, as they would have had to have enforced their original decision if it had not been appealed from.

9. Save as hereinbefore varied, the provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction Act of the twentieth and twenty-first years of Her Majesty's reign, chapter forty-three, as to the powers of the superior court, as to directing a special case to be stated, as to the enforcing of recognizances, and as to all other matters, shall apply to an appeal under this section in the same manner as if the words "justice or justices" in the said Summary Jurisdiction Act included the special commissioners appointed under this Act.

10. Any act required by this section to be done by the commissioners may be done by two of them, of whom the barrister hereinafter mentioned shall be one. 46. Apportionment of Commissioners under Sign Manual. Her Majesty may, by warrant under the royal sign manual, appoint any number of persons not exceeding three, of whom one shall be a barrister of not less than seven years standing at the bar, to be commissioners under this Act during Her Majesty's pleasure, and upon every vacancy in the office of any commissioner by death, resignation, or incapacity to act may appoint some other fit person to fill the vacancy: Provided always, that in the case of a vacancy by the death, resignation, or incapacity of the commissioner required by this Act to be a barrister, another barrister qualified as aforesaid be appointed in his place.

Three commissioners were appointed by the royal sign manual in February, 1866, under this section, namely, Frederick 28 29 VICT. c. 121, s. 47 51. 399

Eden, Esq., Admiral Houston, and James Paterson, Esq., barrister-at-law. The two first-named, appointed in 1866, and their successors were Admiral Hpratt, C. B., and Major Henry Scott. The commissioners' duties were completed and the office determined by the Act 36 Vict. c. 13, 47. Commissioners to have a Common Seal. The commissioners appointed under this Act shall be styled

" the Special Commissioners for English Fisheries;" they shall cause to be made for their commission such seal or seals as they may require; and any summons, order, warrant, or other instrument or copy thereof, purporting to be sealed with the seal of the commissioners, and to be signed as hereinafter mentioned, shall be received in evidence without any further proof.

48. Commissioners not to sit in Parliament. â No commissioner shall during his continuance in office be capable of being elected or of sitting as a member of the House of Commons.

49. Acts of the Commissioners. â All warrants for the removal of any fishing weir or fixed engine, or for the alteration of any fishing mill dam, shall be signed by two at least of the commissioners, and all cases relating to the removal of such fishing weir or fixed engine, or alteration of any fishing mill dam, shall be heard by all the commissioners, but the opinions of two of them, of whom the said barrister shall be one, shall, in case of difference, decide any question; any other acts, except as aforesaid, authorized to be done by the commissioners may be done by any one of them, and any notice or other instrument under the seal of the commissioners, and signed by any person delegated by them, shall be deemed to be sufficiently executed.

50. The Treasury to fix Salaries, &c., and appoint additional Officers. â The commissioners of Her Majesty's treasury may from time to time fix such salaries as they may think fit for the commissioners hereby appointed, and also appoint such additional officers, clerks, and servants at such salaries as the said commissioners of the treasury may think proper and necessary, and from time to time dismiss such officers, clerks, and servants, and appoint others in their place.

51. Duration of Office of Commissioners. â The offices of the said commissioners, and all powers, rights, and privileges pertaining thereto, shall continue in force for two years, and from thenceforth until the end of the next session of parliament.

52. Powers of Commissioners. â The commissioners may examine any witnesses on oath, and with respect to enforcing the attendance of witnesses, and the production of deeds, books, papers, and documents shall have the same powers as the judges of one of Her Majesty's superior courts of Westminster have for such or the like purposes; moreover it shall be lawful for the commissioners to order any person to be removed from their court who may interrupt the business of the court, or refuse to obey their lawful orders in respect of the same; and it shall be the duty of the chief constable, commissioner, or chief officer of police of the county, city, borough, or place in which the court is held to take care that an officer of police do attend that court during its sitting for the purpose of keeping order therein, and to carry into effect any such order of the commissioners as aforesaid.

53. Copies of Orders of Commissioners. â Copies of orders of the commissioners made in pursuance of this Act, with the accompanying plans and maps, if any, shall be deposited with the clerk of the peace of the county where any engine or any subject-matter to which such order relates is situate; and any copy of such order, plan, or map purporting to be stamped with the seal of the commissioners shall be admissible in evidence, and any copy of any certificate or order of the said secretary of state in pursuance of the Salmon Fisheries Acts, 1861-G5, or either of them, purporting to be

stamped with the official stamp of the office of the said secretary, and to be signed by any person by order of the said secretary of state, shall also be admissible in evidence.

The orders of the commissioners include descriptions of the fiites and general mode of working of the legal fixed engines or fi. sliing weirs, or fisliling mill dams throughout England and Wales. As the statutes liave not declared that all such things shall be illegal, unless such as have been f'oidm legal and certified by the commissioners, there may be a few not adjudicated upon by the commissioners, as to which tlie old law will remain, and if their legality be disputed it must be by the circuitous and expensive machinery which the common law supplies. Besides the copy of each legal engine or weir deposited with the clerk of the peace, each owner, and also the board of conservators, is 28 29 VICT. c. 121, Â Â 54â 56. 401 in possession of a duplicate copy' stamped with the seal of the commissioners, and the legality in each instance can thus be easily ascertained by any person interested. A return of the various engines and weirs inquired into and adjudicated upon by the conmissioners up to March, 1872, was printed l)y order oi' the House of Commons, 5th August, 1872 (No. 369), and includes the result of the great majority of the decisions. The legal fixed engines in England and Wales are not very serious evils, and there are no bag-nets or fly-nets, and only three stake-nets having a pocket.

64. Penalty for false Swearing. â Every person who upon examination before the commissioners, or any one of them, wilfully gives false e 'idencg, and every person who wilfully swears, affirms, or declares falsely in any affidavit relating to any matter within the cognizance of the commissioners, shall be liable to the pains and penalties of perjury.

55. Proceedinys not to abate by Death, &c. â Proceedings before the commissioners shall not abate or be suspended by any death or transmission or change of interest; but in any such case of death or transmission or change of interest it shall be lawful for the commissioners, when they see fit, to require notices to be given to persons becoming interested, or to make any orders for continuing, suspending, or carrying on the proceedings, or otherwise in relation thereto, which to the commissioners appears just.

Miscellaneous.

56. Power in certain Cases to award Imprisonment mth Hard Labour instead of Penalty. â Where any person has been convicted twice of an otience under any of the following sections of the Salmon Fishery Act, 18(51, that is to say, sections eight, nine, fourteen, seventeen, and nineteen, he may, on being convicted a third time of an offence against any of the said sections, instead of being lined in a pecuniary penalty, be sentenced to imprisoimient with or without hard labour for any period not exceeding six months or less than one month, and, if a licensee, he shall on being convicted a second time of an otience against the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865, forfeit his licence.

Tlie wimls in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, Â 18, but oaving to the word "or" being used instead of "nor"

(wlieli probably was the intention), the new words leave the section exactly as it was before. The alteration is thus abortive for want of the appropriate language.

The offences here alluded to are fisliing with lights, spears, otters, snatches, also using or possessing fish roe, taking unseasonable fish, and catching fish in the annual close time. Sect. 19 of theact 1861 being repealed, imprisonment is not now a punishment for the offence of selling fish, c., during the annual close season.

In computing a third offence it is not necessary that the previous offences be of the same kind, provided these were under any of the above four sections of the Act 1861, one of the five being repealed. Thus, if a person has been convicted once of using lights, also once of taking unseasonable fish, and then next of catching fish in the annual close time, this last will be a third offence within the meaning of this section, and may be pmiished by imprisonment.

57. Mhiimum Penalties. â The penalty in respect of any offence under the Salmon Fishery Acts 1861 to 1873 and under any bye-law made under the authority of this Act, shall on a conviction for a second offence be not less than one half the greatest penalty capable of being imposed in respect of such offence; and on a conviction for a third or any subsequent offence the greatest amount of penalty mentioned in the said Acts shall be imposed; but nothing herein contained shall affect the provisions of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, in respect of the discretion of imposing the punishment of hard labour as therein mentioned.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, Â 18, but owing to the words " imder the authority of this Act" being used instead of what was probably intended, namely, " under the authority of the said Acts," the result will be that the greater part of the amendment will be abortive, for as no bye-laws can be made under theact 1865, the words as to bye-laws will be insensible.

The offences mentioned in this section are not restricted in the same way as those in the 56th section preceding, but include all offences under tlie Acts 1861 to 1873, except those under the bye-laws made under the Act 1873, which, by the blunder above pointed out, have been unfortunately omitted.

The justices, by Act 1873, Â 18, sub-section 5, have a further discretion allowed them as to the minimum penalty for a second and third offence.

58. Forfeiture of Nets, dr. â Where any person has been convicted of an offence under section seventeen of the Salmon Fishery Act, 18G1, he shall, in addition to the penalties thereby incurred, forfeit any net or mo able instrument used in committing such offence, and the convicting justices shall direct the same to be sold or destroyed, and the proceeds of such sale shall be paid to the conservators of the district.

The forfeiture here mentioned follows only on the offence of fishing in the annual close season, but not on the offence of fishing during the weekly close season.

59. Lvnit of Time for Compensation for Fish Pass. â Whereas by the twenty-third section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 18G1, any person sustaining loss by reason of a person or body of persons affixing a fish pass to a dam, in pursuance of that section, may recover compensation for such injury in a summary manner from the person or body of persons by "whom such fish pass has been affixed: Be it enacted, that no such compensation shall be recovered unless proceedings for the recovery of the same are instituted within two years after the time at which the fish pass was fii't affixed to the dam.

60. Consent of Conservators necessary for artificial Propagation of Salmon. â Where any person, under the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, is exempted from a penalty in respect of using or having in his possession salmon roe on the ground that he uses or has it in his possession for artificial propagation or other scientific purposes, or is upon the same ground exempt from a penalty in respect of taking or having in his possession unclean or unseasonable salmon or young of salmon, or catching or attempting to catch salmon when spawning or near their spawning beds, he shall not, if within a district where a board of conservators is established, be exempt in any of the above cases from such penalty unless the consent of the board has been given in writing to such use or possession of salmon roe, or to such taking possession of unclean or unseasonable salmon or young of salmon.

The words in brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, 5 18. The Act 1861, Â Â 9, 14, 15, relates to the above exemptions from penalty. See notes to these sections. The effect of this and the other sections is that the board of conservators cannot take fish, whether clean or unclean, from a private fishery without the consent of the occupier of such fishery; at the same time the occupier cannot take unclean fish out of his own fishery, unless with the consent of the board of conservators, if there is one. And for the same reason no third party can take such fish without the joint consents of the occupier and the board of conservators. No exemption is allowed in favour of any person if the fish are clean. As to trout or char, see Â 64.

61. As to Disqualification of Justices. â No justice of the peace shall be disqualified from hearing any case arising under the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865, or either of them, by reason of his being a conservator or a member of a board of conservators, or a subscriber to any society for the protection of salmon or trout; provided that no justice shall be entitled to hear any case in respect of an offence committed on his own land.

62. Payment of Penalties to Conservators in certain Cases. â Where any penalty is recovered on the complaint of a board of conservators or of any officer of or person authorized by a board of conservators, the court shall, unless for special reason they think it inexpedient so to do, direct the whole of the penalty and the proceeds of any forfeiture to be paid to the said board, to be applied by them for the purposes of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865.

As to the application of penalties for offences under the Salmon Fishery Acts, see Act 1873, Â 62. This section is substantially included and re-enacted in the 62nd section of the Act 1873.

63. River Esk within Limits of Act. â The river Esk, together with its banks and tributary streams up to their source, shall be deemed to be within the limits of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865: Provided that all offences against the said Acts committed within Scotch jurisdiction shall be prosecuted and punished in manner directed by the " Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1862."

64. Partial Application of Salmon Acts to Trout in Salmon Rivers. â The sections of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, that apply to fishing with lights, spears, and other prohibited instruments, and to using roe as a bait, and which are numbered respectively eight and nine, as amended by this Act, shall apply to trout or char in a salmon river situate in a 28 29 VICT. c. 121, Â Â 64, 65. 405 fishery district which is subject

to a board of conservators appointed under this Act; and in any such river no person shall fish for, catch or attempt to catch, or kill any trout or char between the second day of October and the first day of February following, both inclusive; and any person wilfully killing any trout or char in any such river as aforesaid during such interval as aforesaid shall forfeit any trout or char caught by him, and shall, in addition thereto, be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds for each offence: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall apply to any person having in his possession trout or char or trout roe or char roe for the purpose of artificial propagation or other purpose, if such person has the permission in writing of the board of the district in which the river runs from whence such trout or char or trout roe or char roe has been taken to catch such trout or char, and to have in his possession such trout or char or trout roe or char roe for the purposes aforesaid.

The words within brackets were introduced by the Act 1873, § 18.

This section in effect extends to trout and char in fishery districts a close season, and also the prohibition against catching trout or char with lights, spears, otters, and as to using trout roe or char roe. But where a river is not a salmon river in a fishery district, trout and char are not affected by these changes, and may be caught all the year round, and with any instruments, as before this enactment. It will be observed also that in fishery districts it is not an offence to fish for, but only to wilfully kill trout or char between 2nd October and 1st February, both inclusive, the penalty being put only on the actual and wilful killing of these fish.

As to taking trout or char for scientific purposes, see note to § 60 of this Act. See other offences as to trout and char in Act 1861, §§ 8, 9, 14; Act 1873, §§ 20, 38.

65. Provisions as to Exportation of Salmon. All salmon intended for exportation shall be entered for that purpose with the proper officer of customs at the port or place of intended exportation, before shipment thereof; and any salmon shipped or exported or brought to any wharf, quay, or other place for exportation, between the third day of September and the thirtieth day of April following, contrary to this section, shall be forfeited, and the person shipping or exporting, or bringing the same for exportation, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds for every salmon so shipped or exported, or brought for exportation; and any officer of the customs may, between the third day of September and the thirtieth day of April, open any parcel entered or intended for exportation, or brought to any quay, wharf, or other place for that purpose, and suspected by him to contain salmon, and may detain any salmon found in such parcel until proof is given, in manner provided by law, of the salmon being such as may be legally exported; and if the salmon, before such proof is given, become unfit for human food, the officer of customs may destroy the same.

The words within brackets were introduced by the Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1870, 33 & 34 Vict. c. 33, § 3. See also the Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 26 Vict. c. 10, §§ 3, 4, and notes.

The time between 3rd September and 30th April is reckoned exclusively of those days, so that the act becomes first illegal on 4th September, and remains illegal no longer than the 29th April. This section applies to the exportation of all salmon, whether clean or unclean, without first entering them for exportation, and the penalty is cumulative to that imposed by the Act 26 Vict. c. 10. The penalties under this

section are recovered under Act 1873, Â 62, but those under 26 Vict. c. 10, are recovered and applied under the Act 1861, Â 35, which is still unrepealed as regards the Act of 26 Vict. c. 10.

66. Appeal to Quarter Sessions in Case of summary Conviction. â If any person feels aggrieved by any determination or adjudication of the justices with respect to any penalty or forfeiture under the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865, or either of the said Acts, the person so aggrieved may appeal to the court of general or quarter sessions for the county or place in which the cause of appeal has arisen, holden not less than fifteen days and not more than four months after the decision of the justices from which the appeal is made; provided that the appellant shall, within three days after the cause of appeal has arisen, give notice in writing to the other party to the proceedings of his intention to appeal, and of the grounds thereof; and also provided that the appellant shall, within three days after the cause of appeal has arisen, enter into a recognizance before a justice of the peace, with two sufficient sureties, conditioned personally to try such appeal and to abide the judgment of the court thereon, and to pay such costs as may be awarded by the court: The court may adjourn the appeal, and upon the hearing thereof may confirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the justices, with or without costs, to be paid by either party.

FIRST SCHEDULE.â (Repealed by Act 1865, Â 65.) SECOND SCHEDULE.

Form A.

Advertisement. â Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861, 1865.

Notice is hereby given, that the special commissioners for English fisheries will hold a court, and at such court will proceed to inquire into the legality of all fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, and fixed engines situate on the, and all persons interested in such engines are required to attend at such court from day to day until discharged, in order that a decision may be made by the said commissioners "with respect to the removal of such fishing weirs or fixed engines, or the alteration of such fishing mill dams, or that such other order may be made by them in the premises as the facts of each case appear to warrant.

Form B. Notice.

To the owner of the, and all other persons interested therein.

Take notice, you are required to appear before us, the special commissioners for English fisheries, and thence- forward from day to day until discharged, in order that there may be then and there an inquiry by us touching the legality of and that a decision may be made by us with respect to their removal, or that such other order may be made by us in the premises as the facts of the case may appear to us to warrant.

Given under our hands and under the common seal of the said commissioners this day of 186.

33 34 VICT. c. 33.

An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Export of Unseasonable Salmon.

1st August, 1870.

Whereas by the third section of " The Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1863," it is amongst other things provided that " the burden of proving that any salmon entered for exportation from any part of the United Kingdom to parts beyond the seas between the

third day of September and the second day of February following is not so entered in contravention of the said Act shall lie on the person entering the same for exportation:"

And whereas it is expedient to make further provision for preventing the exportation of salmon that cannot legally be sold within the limits of the United Kingdom:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: 1. Short Title. â This Act may be cited for all purposes as " The Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1870."

2. Commencement of Act. â This Act shall not come into operation before the third day of September one thousand eight hundred and seventy, which day is hereinafter referred to as " the commencement of this Act."

8. Amendment of Sect. 3 of 26 Vict. c. 10.â From and after the commencement of this Act the said third section of " The Salmon Acts Amendment Act, 1863," shall be read and construed as if the words "second day of February" were omitted therefrom and the words " thii-tieth day of April " were inserted instead of the said omitted words.

See the Act 26 Vict. c. 10, Â 3, where the effect of this and the next section is stated.

4. Amendm, ent of Sect. 65 of 28 d 29 Vict. c. 121.â The sixty-fiith section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," shall be read and construed as if the words " second day of

February" were omitted therefrom and the words "thirtieth day of April" were inserted instead of the said omitted words.

See the Act 1865, Â 65, as to the effect of this amendment.

36 VICT. c. 13.

An Act to discontinue the Office of Special Commissioners of Salmon Fisheries in England.

24th April, 1873.

Whereas under the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865 (28 29 Vict. c. 121), certain special commissioners were appointed, whose offices were to continue in force for two years, and from thenceforth until the end of the next session of parliament, and by various Acts, and lastly by the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1872 (35 36 Vict. c. 88), the offices of the said commissioners were continued until the first day of October one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, and the end of the then next session of parliament:

And whereas it is expedient to discontinue the said commissioners as hereinafter mentioned:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: 1. Discontinuance of Special Fishcrij Commissioners. â After the passuig of this Act, the offices of the special commissioners appomted under the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865 (28 20 Vict. c. 121), and all powers, rights, and privileges pertaming thereto, shall determine, without prejudice nevertheless to anything done by the said commissioners before the

said day, and no further appointment of such commissioners shall be made under the said Act.

See Act 1865, Â 46.

36 37 VICT. c. 71.

All Act to amend the Law relating to Salmon Fisheries in England and Wales.

5th August, 1873.

Wheas it is expedient to amend the laws relating to salmon fisheries in England and "Wales:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Part I.â Preliminaey. Definitions.

1. Short Title of Act. â This Act may be cited for all purposes as " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1873," and this Act and " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865," may be cited together as " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873."

2. Construction of Act. â This Act, so far as is consistent with the tenor thereof, shall be read as one with " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865."

3. Commencement of Act. â This Act shall not come into operation until the fi'rst day of September one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, which date is hereinafter referred to as the commencement of this Act.

4. Definition of Terms. â In the construction of this Act and of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865," unless there is something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction, the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned shall have respectively the meanings hereinafter assigned to them; (that is to say,)

"Annual close season " and " weekly close season " shall mean the annual close season and the weekly close season for all kinds of salmon fishing except by rod and line respectively applicable to and in force in the fishery district or place in which any offence charged shall be committed, and all penalties, for- feitures, proceedings, powers, and things described in the seventeenth, twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second sections of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, as apphcable to the periods therein specified, or intended to be specified, as the annual and weekly close seasons, shall be deemed to apply to the annual or weekly close seasons, as these may have been or shall be lawfully varied from time to time in each fishery district respectively: ' Close season for rods " shall mean and include the annual season during which at any particular place it is or shall be unlawful at that place under the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," to fish for, kill, take, or destroy, or attempt to kill, take, or destroy, any salmon with a single rod and line:

The definition of the words "fishing weir," in the fourth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, is hereby repealed, and the words fishing weir shall mean any erection, structure, or obstruction fixed to the soil either temporarily or permanently across, or partly across, a river or branch of a river, and which is used for the exclusive purpose of catching or facilitating the catching of fish:

"Fixed engine" shall include, in addition to the nets, fixed implements, engines, and devices respectively mentioned in " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865," any net placed or suspended in any inland or tidal waters unattended by the owner

or any person duly authorized by the owner to use the same for catching salmon, and all engines, devices, machines, or contrivances, whether floating or otherwise, for placing or suspending such nets or maintaining them in working order or making them stationary:

"Grating " shall mean and include any device approved by the secretary of state for preventing the passage of fish through any channel:

"Inspectors " shall mean the inspectors of salmon fisheries appointed under the provisions of the thirty-first section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861:"

"Occupier" shall include any person for the time being in actual possession of the fisheries and premises in respect of which that word is used, whether such person is owner or not:

"Otter lath or jack " shall mean and include any small boat or vessel, board, or stick, used for the purpose of running out baits, artificial or otherwise, across any portion of any lake or river, and whether used with a hand-line or as auxiliary to a rod and line, or in any other way:

"Owner " shall mean and include any person receiving the rents of the property in respect of which that word is used from the occupier, or who would receive the same if such property were let to a tenant:

"Returning officer" shall mean the chairman of any board of conservators, or any person appointed by writing under his hand to conduct the elections of boards of conservators in the manner hereinafter prescribed:

"Rod and line " shall mean single rod and line:

"Secretary of state " shall mean one of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of state:

"Strokehall or snatch" shall mean and include any instrument or device, whether used with a rod and line or otherwise, for the purpose of foul-hooking any fish.

Tills definition of close season (taken from Dodds' Bill) will eniille llie penalties to follow all the A ariations in the annual and weekly close seasons which will arise under the l)3 e-laws. Tliose places which are not Avitllin any fishery district must remain as before, subject to the close seasons fixed by the Act 1861, Â Â 17, 21, which cannot now be changed as to such places by any existing antliority.

Tlie annual and weeldy close seasons for cross-line fishing are the same as for nets. The weekly close season does not apply to fishing with suigle rod and line.

This definition of fishing weir (taken from Dodds' Bill) amends the dclmition given in the Act 1861, Â 4, and wliich confined the tenn merely to dams, whereas many fishing weirs did not in fact or in intention dam up the water at all. Owing to the defect of the former definition, the special commissioners had great dilliculty in exercising their jurisdiction over several iishuig weirs, and thoughli now tliat their jurisdiction has been exercised the remedy has come late, it supplies a proved defect ill tlu; lonuer Act.

This is a fourth addition to the definitions of a fixed engine, and all the definitions must he taken togetlier. See Act 1861, Â 4, 11; Act 1865, Â 39. The object of the present addition to those definitions seems to have been to render hang-nets used on the northern sea coast illegal. But if this-was the object, the language used is unfortunate, for the words " unattended by any person" impliedly render legal sucli nets if oidy some person authorized by the owner " attends" them. To " attend" a net is a vague

expression, and will be satisfied by a person sitting in a boat and looking at the net, or at several nets, without doing anything to them. If, therefore, a hang-net, before this Act, was legal when set without a man attending it, it will be legal now if some person sit; and attend it. This section, therefore, at most only compels an additional man to sit idly looking on while the net is at work, and in that view the benefit gained is not obvious.

As to fishing with the otter lath and jack, and with the strokchall and snatch, see Act 1861, Â 8, and notes.

Part II. Fishery Districts.

5. Power of Secretary of State to alter Districts. A board of conservators of any fishery district may, after giving three calendar months notice in writing to any other board or boards of conservators affected by such alteration, or, in case there is no board, to the justices of the peace of any county in quarter sessions assembled, the whole or any part of which shall be affected by such alteration, apply to the secretary of state to enlarge, reduce, or alter the limits of such district, or to combine two or more districts or parts of districts; and, after such notice has been previously advertised for two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers published or circulated within the district or districts affected by such alteration, the secretary of state may thereupon by his certificate enlarge, reduce, or alter such district, either by uniting it with any other district or districts, or combining it with any other part or parts of a district or districts, or by severing any part from such district and forming it into a separate district, or uniting it with any other district, or by adding to such district any place not yet included in any district; and the certificate of the secretary of state embodying all such alterations shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1860," and shall transfer and apportion any existing contracts, debts, mortgages, liabilities, and assets among such altered boards. But no alteration of any district shall affect the power of any existing board or boards until the new districts are fully constituted.

6. Combined Districts. When the effect of any such alteration is to include in a district either an additional portion of any county previously included or a portion of a county not previously included, the justices of such county in quarter sessions assembled shall add such number of members to the existing board of the district as the secretary of state shall appoint; and where the effect of such alteration is to exclude altogether from the district any county, the whole of the members of the board appointed by such county shall cease to hold their offices at such board. When the effect of such alteration is to partially exclude from the district any county, the number of members representing that county shall be reduced to such number as the secretary of state shall appoint, and in case the effect of such alteration is to create the part severed from any district into a new district, or to unite the parts severed from different districts into a new district, then and in either of such cases the provisions of "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," shall apply as if a new district had been created under the provisions of the fifth section of that Act.

7. Notices to be published. A notice of any alteration made in any district or in the constitution of any board of conservators in pursuance of the provisions hereinbefore contained shall be advertised once in some daily morning London newspaper and

at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper or newspapers published or circulated within the district or districts affected by such alteration. The production of a copy of a newspaper containing any such advertisement shall be evidence of such advertisement having been given at the time such newspaper bears date.

8. Copy of Certificate of Formation of Districts to be Evidence. A copy of the certificate or certificates of the secretary of state deposited with the clerk of the peace of any county in relation to the formation, enlargement, combination, reduction, or alteration of a fishery district granted in pursuance 3G 37 VICT. r. 71, or of this Act, certified or purporting to be certified as a true copy by the clerk of the peace of such county, shall be evidence that all the requisitions contained in "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1805," or in this Act, relating to the formation, enlargement, combination, reduction, or alteration of any fishery district have been complied with, and that such district has been duly formed, enlarged, combined, reduced, or altered with the limits and in the manner specified in such certificate or certificates.

9. Power to Secretary of State to alter the Number of Conservators appointed at Quarter Sessions. It shall be lawful for the secretary of state, on the application of the justices for any county comprised, or partly comprised, in any fishery district, in quarter sessions assembled, one month's previous notice of such application having been given to the board of conservators affected by such alteration, to alter the number of conservators to be appointed at quarter sessions by the justices for all or any counties or county comprised, or partly comprised, in such district:

Provided always, that no such alteration shall be made, unless one month's previous notice has been given of the intention of the secretary of state to make such alteration, in some newspaper or newspapers circulating within the district; and previous to the expiration of such notice it shall be lawful for any person to represent to the secretary of state any objection which he may have to such alteration, and the secretary of state shall, after making such inquiry into such objection as he may think fit, either make such alteration, or not, as he may see fit, and shall cause his final determination to be published in the same newspaper or newspapers in which his intention to make such alteration was originally published.

This section is not likely to be acted upon, for there can be no particular object or interest served by the quarter sessions asking to alter the number of conservators, which will probably only tend to decrease their own influence.

10. Clerk of the Peace to send Notice of Appointment. In any fishery district, where any members of a board of conservators are appointed by the justices in quarter sessions of a single county, or of one or more counties, a notice of the appointment of the members of such board appointed by such county, or by each of such counties, with the name and address of each member, shall be sent to the clerk or other officer of the board of conservators by the clerk of the peace of such county, or of each of such counties, within fourteen days from the date of such appointment; and any clerk of the peace refusing or neglecting to send such notice shall for every such refusal or neglect be liable to a penalty of not exceeding two pounds.

11. Minute of Conviction to be sent to Board of Conservators. â Where any person is convicted of an offence under the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873, or under any bye-law made in pursuance of this Act, the clerk of the justices before whom such person is convicted shall forward a certificate of such conviction to the clerk of the board of conservators for the fishery district within which such conviction took place within one calendar month from the date of such conviction, and such certificate shall be receivable in evidence in all legal proceedings, and any clerk to any justices neglecting or refusing to forward such certificate to the clerk of the board of conservators, shall for every such refusal or neglect be liable to a penalty of not exceeding two pounds.

12. Appointment of Conservators for the Eirer Esk. â For the purposes of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873, the commissioners of supply in Scotland shall have all the privileges and duties of the justices in quarter sessions in England for the election of boards of conservators for the river Esk.

See Act 1865, Â G3.

Paet in.â Restrictions as to certain Modes and Times

OF TAKING AND SELLING FISHERY.

13. Extension of the ' Malicious Injuries Act.'" â The provisions of the thirty-second section of the " Malicious Injuries to Property Act," so far as they relate to poisoning any water with intent to kill or destroy fish, shall be extended and apply to salmon rivers, as if the words "or in any salmon river" were inserted in the said section in lieu of the words "private rights of fishery " after the words "noxious material in any such pond or water."

This is an obscure enactment, and gives a wrong recital of the section in question, making it difficult to know what words are to be inserted, and at what part of the section. The Act 24 25 Vict. c. 97, Â 32, is (uoted ante, i. 87. This section is obviously founded on a misunderstanding of the 32nd section of the Malicious Injuries Act, which already extended, not only to any salmon river, but to any several fishery for salmon in tidal waters. This section does not profess to do more than was already done; the only difference it makes is that putting lime in the sea or in tidal rivers where there is no several fishery, is now punishable, but this is too remote and purposeless an injury to be likely to be committed.

14. No Draft-net to be shot within 100 Yards of another until the Latter is landed. â Any person who shall shoot or work any seine or draft-net for salmon in a river across the whole width or more than three-fourths of the width thereof, within one hundred yards from the nearest point in the line of shot of any other seine or draft-net worked in like manner and already shot or being worked in such river, before such last-mentioned net is fully drawn in and landed, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill) meets a difficulty Avlrich was complained of, namely, the practice of fishermen working net after net so close to each other, lioth in place and time, as to block up the passage of fish. The section applies not only to public fishermen, but to the fishermen either in private waters or in sevtx'al fisheries in tidal waters.

15. No Eel Baskets, c(r., to be fixed between 1st January and 24th of June. â No person, between the first day of January and the twenty-fourth day of June inclusive, shall hang, fix, or use in any salmon river any baskets, nets, traps, or devices for catching eels or the fry of eels, or place in any inland water any device whatsoever to catch or obstruct any fish descending the stream; or shall at any time place upon the apron of any weir" any basket, trap, or device for taking fish, except wheels or leaps for taking lampreys between the first day of August and the first day of March; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds for every day during which he suffers such engines to be fixed or used as aforesaid. But nothing herein contained shall extend to prohibit the use of eel baskets not exceeding in any part ten inches in diameter constructed so as to be fished with bait, and not used at any dam or weir.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill, but varied) prevents eel fisheries from being used so as to interfere with salmon fisheries. The owners are not, however, prohibited from hanging eel baskets (not being on the apron of a weir) day and night, between 24th June and 1st January.

16. Interference with Salmon in Close Seasons. â No person shall, during the annual or weekly close season, in any year, place any obstruction, use any contrivance, or do any act, for the purpose of deterring salmon from passing up a river; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding five pounds: Provided always, that nothing in this section shall apply to any kind of fishing for fish other than salmon legally practised in any

This section was scarcely necessary, and is not quite consistent with Â 46. The gist of the offence is deterring fish. According to this enactment the fish, but for the obstruction, must be physically able to pass, but if something is done which operates to deter or frighten them from doing so, it is punishable. It is difficult to see why such an offence should be confined to the annual or weekly close time, since the same mischief would be equally great in the open season. Besides, it is much more important to remove the physical obstacles to the fish passing by making fish passes than the secondary kind of obstruction here dealt with. If, for example, a person were to stretch a net across a river, he could not be punished under this section, for the net would physically obstruct the fish, but not deter them. The placing of a net would, however, now be also punished by the 46th section, which see.

17. No fishing within 50 Yards above or 100 Yards below a Weir or Mill Races except with Rod and Line. â No person shall catch or kill, or attempt to catch or kill, except with rod and line, or scare or disturb, or attempt to scare or disturb, any salmon within fifty yards above or one hundred yards below any weir, dam, or artificial obstruction which hinders or retards the passage of salmon, or in any waters under or appurtenant to any mill, or in the head race or tail race of any mill, or in any waste race or pool communicating with such mill race, or in any artificial channel connected with such weir or obstruction; and no person shall fish with rod and line in such a manner, or such a place, near such weir or obstruction, as to wilfully scare or hinder salmon from passing through any fish pass, or over any part of such weir or obstruction usually available to salmon for the purposes of a passage. Any person acting in contravention of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence, and a

further penalty not exceeding one pound for every salmon so caught, and shall forfeit all boxes, baskets, nets, rods, implements, or devices used or placed for catching the same; provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to apply to any legal fishing mill dam not having a crib, box, or cruipe, or to any fishing box, coop, apparatus, net, or mode of fishing in connexion with and forming part of such weir or obstruction for purposes of fishing: Provided, that where a fish pass approved by the Home Office, in pursuance of the twelfth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, has been or shall be attached to such weir, dam, or artificial obstruction, this section shall not be enforced in respect of such weir or artificial obstruction until compensation has been made by the conservators of the district to the persons entitled to fish in such water's for such right of fishery, such compensation to be settled in case of dispute in manner in which disputed compensation as to lands is directed to be settled under the Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill, but varied) is one of the most useful and effective in the present statute.

The mode of measuring the 50 or 100 yards should have been defined so as to remove all dispute, but in the absence of such definition the proper terminus *quo* for measuring the *lower* seems to be the foot of the apron of the weir or dam, if any; while the *terminus a quo* for measuring the fifty yards will be the crest of the dam; and in both cases the measurement will be along each bank of the river. Hence, if the dam or weir is built diagonally, or in a slanting form across the bed of the river, as is not unusual, the prohibitory line of limitation at the extreme end will be nearly parallel with the weir or dam.

The prohibition against fishing does not affect fishing mill dams which have a fishing box, or those which have no fishing box, but which catch fish with the aid of a net used in connection with and as part of the legal fishing mill dam. Several of the latter kind of fishing mill dams are found in Hampshire and Devonshire.

The prohibition against fishing with nets in waste races or pools communicating with mill races is absolute, and does not depend on the distance from the dam. In some cases there are pools between the dam and the foot of the tail race fed by waste sluices, and where salmon rest, and before this enactment the whole fish of a river might have been swept out in the nets, and were usually so caught; but this section will now generally prevent such practices. The words "appurtenant to" and "communicating with" denote contiguity of situation to the mill or mill race, but have no relation to the distance from the weir.

There are two provisos to this section. The first proviso existed in the clause in Dodds' Bill, and the second proviso was added afterwards. The first proviso has the effect of exempting the fishing carried on in legal fishing mill dams. The second proviso applies to such weirs, whether fishing mill dams or not, as have or will in future have a fish pass according to Act 1861, s. 12. When such pass is made, the section is not to apply to these till the board of conservators has paid the owner of the fishery here prohibited, namely, the owner of the fishery above and below the weir, for the value of his fishery. As previously stated, few fish passes have been made, or are ever likely to be made, under the 12th section of the Act 1861, because the second condition, without adequate protection to the millowner, is incompatible with

the efficient use of mill weirs for milling. See Act 1861, Â 12, and Act 1865, Â 42. This is so far fortunate, otherwise the benefit of this section Would have been considerably marred by coupling it with a burdensome expense thrown on the board of conservators. The compensation will also be difficult of settlement, when claimed. The second proviso does not apply to weirs not in a fishery district.

18. Amendments of " Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 and 1865." The following sections of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," and " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," shall be respectively amended in the following manner; (that is to say,) (1.) The eighth section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," shall be construed as if the words "otter lath or jack, wire, or snare" were inserted after the word " any," and as if the words " or killing" were inserted after the word " catching" in the second sub-section, and as if the words " or kill"

were inserted after the words "to catch" in the third sub-section: (2.) The eleventh section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," shall be construed as if the words " or for the purpose of facilitating the catching of salmon, or detaining or obstructing the free passage of," were inserted after the words " used for catching."

(3.) The fourteenth section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," shall be construed as if the words " kill or injure or attempt to take" were inserted after the words " wilfully take," in the first sub-section of the first part thereof, and the words " in respect of each fish taken, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession" in the second sub-section of the second part thereof were omitted, and the words " for each such offence, and a further penalty of one pound in respect of each fish taken, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession" were inserted in lieu thereof: (4.) The fifty-sixth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, shall be construed as if the words " or less than one month" were inserted after the words " six months."

(5.) The fifty-seventh section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, shall be read as if the words " 1861 and 1865" were omitted, and the words "1861 to 1873, and under any bye-law made under the authority of this Act" were inserted in lieu thereof; but it shall not be imperative on any justices under the provisions of such section to inflict a greater penalty than fifty shillings for a second offence, or than five pounds for a third offence under the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873: (6.) The sixtieth section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," shall be construed as if the words " or young of salmon" were inserted throughout after the words " unclean or unseasonable salmon:"

(7.) The sixty-fourth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, shall be read as if the word " October" were substituted for the word " November," and as if the word trout included the word char: (8.) The provisions of the fourteenth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, and the thirty-eighth 2 F section of this Act, shall be read as if the word salmon included the words trout and char.

This section will cause much trouble to courts and judges and justices, by inserting new words in existing enactments, instead of repealing those enactments and re-enacting them with the new matter inserted at the proper place. The effect of these various new interpolations will be found noticed in the notes upon the respective enactments of the previous Acts here referred to.

19. Penalties for selling Fish during Close Time. No person shall buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession for sale, any salmon or part of any salmon

between the third day of September and the first day of February following, both inclusive. And any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit any salmon or part of any salmon so bought, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession for sale, and shall incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds for every such salmon or part of any salmon. But nothing herein contained shall apply to any person buying, selling, or exposing for sale, or having in his possession for sale, any salmon which has been cured, salted, pickled, or dried beyond the limits of the United Kingdom, or if within the limits of the United Kingdom between the first day of February and the third day of November in any year, or any clean fresh salmon caught within the limits of this Act, provided its capture by any net, instrument, or device other than a rod and line, was lawful at the time and in the place where it was caught, or to any clean fresh salmon caught at any time beyond the limits of this Act, provided its capture by any net, instrument, or device other than a rod and line, if within the United Kingdom, was lawful at the time and in the place where it was caught; but the burden of proving that any clean fresh salmon so bought, sold, exposed for sale, or in the possession of any person for sale was captured abroad or lawfully captured within the United Kingdom, shall lie on the person selling or exposing for sale, or having in his possession for sale any such salmon; and the burden of proving that any cured, salted, pickled, or dried salmon was cured, salted, pickled or dried elsewhere than in the United Kingdom, or if within the United Kingdom, then between the first day of February and the third day of November in any year, shall lie upon the person in whose possession for sale such salmon is found.

36 37 VICT. c. 71, Â Â 20, 21. 423

This section is substituted for the 19th section of the Act 1861, now repealed, and is much more correctly located. The burden of proof thrown on the persons selling salmon between 3rd September and 1st February is now not merely that the fish was caught out of England and Wales, but, if caught within the United Kingdom, that it was lawfully caught. The only mode of proving Scotch and Irish law is by calling as a witness some solicitor or barrister who has practised such law, or an official there, and hence this will be an expensive and difficult defence.

Though a person will *prima facie*, incur a penalty for selling pickled salmon after 3rd September, yet if he can prove that the fish had been pickled in England or Wales between 1st February and 3rd November he will be exempt from any penalty.

20. Penalty on catching Trout or Char during Close Time. — No person shall buy, sell, or expose for sale, or have in his possession for sale, any trout or char between the second day of October and the first day of February following, both inclusive; and any person acting in contravention of this section shall forfeit any trout or char so bought, sold, or exposed for sale, or in his possession for sale, and shall incur a penalty not exceeding one pound for every such trout or char.

This enactment applies to places not within a fishery district, as well as salmon rivers within a fishery district, while some other enactments as to trout and char apply only to salmon rivers within fishery districts. See Â 38; also Act 1861, Â Â 8, 9, 14; also Act 1865, Â 64. As the catching of trout and char is prohibited by Act 1865, Â 64, in salmon rivers within a fishery district between 2nd October and 1st February, the present section may be a proper corollary to that enactment. But in rivers and

streams not within a fishery district, or if within a fishery district in rivers which are not salmon rivers, there is no close season for trout or char, and persons may catch them at all times by net or rod, or even with lights and spears; and the present section leaves the law in this state, that no person shall during four months sell or expose for sale trout or char, though they were lawfully caught, as they may be, out of a fishery district.

Part IV.â Licenses.

21. *Provisious as to Licences.* â The following rules shall apply to the issuing of licenses: (1.) Licenses for fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, putts, putchers, fixed nets, and other fixed instruments or devices, and for movable nets and other movable instruments or devices, and also for rods and lines for catching salmon within a fishery district, shall be granted on payment of such sums not exceeding the sums mentioned in the third schedule hereto as the board of conservators of the district, with the sanction of the secretary of state, may from time to time determine: (2.) Licenses shall only be available within the fishery district for which they are granted. Licenses granted for public or common fisheries shall be available only for such fisheries. Licenses granted for private fisheries shall not be available in public or common fisheries, except licenses for the use of a rod and line: (3.) Licenses for fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, putts, putchers, fixed nets, and other fixed instruments or devices for catching salmon, shall be available only for the use of the persons to whom they are granted, and for the employment of such instruments and devices as are named and described therein: (4.) Licenses for movable nets or other movable instruments or devices for catching salmon shall be used only by the person to whom they are granted, or his agents or servants, and in respect of the instrument for which they are granted, and no person shall be deemed to be an agent or servant of a licensee for the purposes of this section unless his name is endorsed on the license, either by the licensee or his authorized agent, or by the clerk or other persons authorized by the conservators, and the conservators shall make arrangements for facilitating the endorsement of the names of agents or servants of licensees by their clerk or other persons authorized as aforesaid. A fee of sixpence shall be payable to such clerk or other person authorized as aforesaid in respect of the endorsement of the name of any agent or servant on a license, in pursuance of this section, by any person requu-ing the same, if made by the clerk or other person authorized by the conservators, or by the licensee in case of the endorsement being made by him or his authorized agent. A licensee shall not bo entitled to have endorsed on his license the names of agents or servants exceeding twice the number of persons required to work at one time the net, instrument, or device in respect of which the license is granted. Any licensee may from time to time remove or cause to bo removed the name of any agent or servant from his license, and, if he so desire, may substitute or cause to be substituted the name of another agent or servant, on payment of a like fee for the name of each person so substituted; but no endorsement made by the licensee or his authorized agent shall be valid unless a copy thereof shall, within twenty-four hours from the date thereof, which date shall be inserted on the license at the time of making such endorsement as aforesaid, be sent by post to such clerk or other person authorized as aforesaid, accompanied with such fee or fees as are payable under this section in respect of such endorsement, and

no person shall be deemed to be an authorized agent of the licensee for the purposes of this sub-section unless his name and address and notice of his appointment as an authorized agent shall have been sent by post to the clerk or other person authorized by the conservators previously to any indorsement being made by such authorized agent: Provided always, that if a licensee at any time during a fishing season, either works or assists in working a movable net or other movable instrument or de-ice himself, the number of names which he shall be entitled to have endorsed on the license for such movable net or other movable instrument or device shall be one less than twice the number of persons required at one time to work such movable net, instrument, or device. Any licensee or authorized agent of a licensee who fraudulently endorses on the license more names than he is entitled to have endorsed thereon, or who endorses thereon any date other than the actual date of the making of such endorsement, shall be liable on conviction thereof to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

(5.) A license for the use of a rod and line shall be used only by the person to whom it is granted, and shall in no case be transferable.

(2.) This enactment professes to prohibit a fisherman who has paid license duty, and who intends to fish in public waters, from fishing in private waters, and vice versa. But unfortunately the Act omits to impose any penalty for either party doing the acts prohibited, and therefore the object of this subsection is not attained. By the Act 1865, § 34, sub-sect. 5, all persons demanding licenses are entitled to receive the same without any question or objection, and if it had been intended to restrict licenses to fish in one part of a district only, an effective enactment should have been introduced to enforce it.

(3.) The words "fixed engines" are omitted here, though the words "fixed instruments" may be deemed equivalent.

(4.) The object of this sub-section may have been to prohibit licensed persons employing relays of fishermen, so as to take more value out of one licensed net than a fisherman working such net by his own labour, with or without assistance, could obtain. Unfortunately this sub-section will prove abortive, because no penalty is put on persons acting in the way prohibited. All this long descriptive sub-section is thus thrown away for want of appropriate penalties being added.

22. Penalty on taking Salmon without a License. — In all fishery districts in which licenses are payable under the provisions of "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," or this Act, any person fishing for, taking, killing, or attempting to take or kill, salmon by any means whatsoever other than a properly licensed fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, instrument, net, or device for catching or facilitating the catching of salmon, or assisting any such person in so doing, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty of not exceeding one pound in respect of each salmon so caught: Provided that this section shall not prevent the use of a gaff or landing-net as auxiliary to any holder of a rod license angling with a rod and line, and that nothing herein contained shall affect the provisions of the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sections of "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865."

The object of this section is to prevent persons catching salmon except by some taxable apparatus or implement. If a person caught or attempted to catch salmon with his hand.

â or Mrith a clothes-basket (as has been done) during the fishing season, he would now be liable to this penalty. If, however, there is nothin' illegal in the instrument used (though not included in the scale of licenses), the defendant in any proceeding can scarcely be subject to the penalty if he show that he asked and re(uired the l)oard of conservators to include such instrmnt in their scale of licenses, and that he was ready to pay a reasonable license duty for the same. This section does not say that the board can prohibit any usual instruments of catching fish in their district which are not illegal 23. Application of Funds in the Hands of the Conservators. â The conservators of a district may expend any moneys in their hands in any manner, not being illegal, they may think most conducive to the improvement of the salmon fisheries within their district.

24. Sc((le of Licenses. â In every fishery district the maximum duty payable in respect of any license for the use of any rod and line, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, putt, putcher, net, and other instrument or device for taking salmon shall not exceed the sums mentioned in the third schedule hereto, 25. Board may vary License Duties uith the Approval of the Secretary of State. â The board of conservators may, with the consent and approval of the secretary of state, from time to time vary the license duties leviabie within their district, and vary the license duties leviabie on similar ustruments in difi'erent parts of the district, specifying in the licenses the portions of the rivers in which the said licensed instruments may be used, so, however, that the license duties so varied shall not exceed the sum mentioned in the third schedule hereto: Provided, that in the event of any vai-iation in the said scale of license duties being agreed upon, the board shall cause notice thereof to be given by advertisement in one or more local newspapers not less than once in each week for fom consecutive weeks before the commencement of the next fishing season; and if from any mistake or error or. any other cause such variation shall not have been duly made and published, the scale of licenses in force during the preceduig year shall be deemed to be in force for all purposes whatsoever, and shall so continue until it shall be duly altered or varied under the provisions of this Act.

The most important part of this enactment as to specifying in the licenses the part of a district in wliich a licensed instrument is to be used is rendered abortive by the omission of an appropriate penalty for using a licensed instrument in a part of a district in which it is not licensed to be used. A similar mistake occurred in Â 21 of this Act.

Paet V.â Constitution of Boaed of Conservators.

(i.) Ex-officio Members.

26. Ex-officio Members of Board of Conservators. â In addition to the elected members of any board of conservators for any fishery district, every person shall be an ex-officio member of such board who possesses either of the qualifications hereinafter mentioned; (that is to say,) (1.) Is the owner or occupier of a fishery or fisheries in such fishery district, which is or are assessed to the rate for the relief of the poor on a gross estimated rental of thirty pounds a year; provided that in no case shall both the owner and occupier be entitled to act at the same time as ex-officio members in respect of the same fishery or fisheries; and if there be more than one such owner or occupier of the same fishery or fisheries, then any one of such owners or occupiers: (2.) Is the owner of lands in such fishery district of an annual value of not less than

one hundred pounds, having a frontage of not less than one mile to any salmon river (in ascertaining such distance the frontage on both sides of the river to be counted), having the right to fish in the part of the river adjoining such frontage, and having paid license duty for fishing for salmon within such district during the last preceding fishing season.

A difficulty will arise in acting on sub-section (1), owing to the fishery not being separately rated from the lands. A fishery separated from the use of the lauds is not rateable under the present law, and there is no power or duty on the overseers to rate it separately; nor does sub-section (2) state who is to value the lands. If each of two or more joint occupiers or 36 37 VICT. c. 71, s. 27 a tenant in common claims to be a member, there is no mode provided of settling which is to be preferred.

27. Provision for Persons under Disability. In all cases where the owner of any fisheries or lands possessing either of the aforesaid qualifications for ex-officio members of the said board of conservators shall be a minor, idiot, lunatic, feme covert, or under any legal disability, or shall be a corporation, company, or fishery association, one of the guardians or trustees of such minor, the committee of the estate of such idiot or lunatic, the husband of such feme covert, one of the members of such corporation, company, or fishery association, or the attorney or agent of such guardian, trustee, committee, husband, corporation, company, or fishery association (respectively) shall be entitled to act as an ex-officio member of the board of conservators of the district within which such fisheries or lands are situate.

28. Ex-officio Members to sign a Declaration. Any person claiming to be entitled to act as an ex-officio member of any board of conservators for any fishery district shall, previously to taking his seat at any such board, or taking any part in the proceedings thereof, or acting in any way as a member of such board, sign a declaration in such form as the board shall prescribe, setting forth the nature of the qualification in respect of which he claims to be entitled to act; and any person wilfully making any false declaration or acting before having made such declaration, having been required to do so, shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding five pounds; and every ex-officio member having signed such declaration as aforesaid shall be entitled to act as a member of the board so long only as he continues to hold such qualification, and in case of any alteration being made in any fishery district, in pursuance of the provisions contained in Part II. of this Act, he shall be entitled to act only in that district where his qualification exists.

(ii.) Representative Members.

29. Additional Members of Boards of Conservators. In addition to the members of any board of conservators appointed under the provisions of "The Salmon Fishery

Act, 1865," in all fishery districts in any part of which there are any public or common rights of fishing, and where such rights are exercised by fishermen duly licensed to fish for salmon (otherwise than with rod and line), all persons who have taken out licenses to fish in such public or common waters or both (other than licenses for the use of a rod and line), during the last preceding fishing season, shall be entitled to elect such number of additional members to represent them at the board of conservators for such district as are hereinafter mentioned; (that is to say,)

If the aggregate amount of license duty paid for fishing in public or common waters or both (other than licenses for the use of a rod and line) does not exceed the sum of fifty pounds, one member:

And if the aggregate amount of license duty exceed that sum, one additional member for every additional fifty pounds or part of fifty pounds.

This and the subsequent sections will cause much trouble and expense to boards of conservators, and the result will be only to add one or two representatives of the public fishermen to boards which will probably consist of about a hundred members other-wise qualified.

30. Rules as to Election of Members. â The election of such additional members shall be held in accordance with the following provisions; (that is to say,) (1.) The board of conservators shall hold a meeting after the commencement of the annual close season in each year; at such meeting the clerk of the board shall produce a statement of the license duty paid in the district during that year, and the board shall thereupon ascertain and declare the amount of license duty paid in respect of licenses for fishing otherwise than with rod and line in public or common waters or both, and the number of representative members for the ensuing year: (2.) The first meeting of the new board of conservators shall be held annually upon such day after the day fixed for the election of such additional members in each year as the chairman of the board for the preceding year shall appoint: (3.) Within a reasonable time before the first meeting of any board of conservators in every year, the returning officer shall sign and publish a notice specifying the number of members to be elected and shall send a copy of such notice by post, with a nomination paper, in the form contained in the first schedule hereto, to each person qualified to vote under the last preceding section, and who shall be either resident within, or the owner of land within, or within ten miles of the boundary of the fishery district in respect of which such license was issued: (4.) The notice shall specify the last day on which the nomination papers are to be sent to the returning officer: (5.) Any person entitled to vote may fill up such nomination paper with his own name, or with the name or names of any other person or persons (not exceeding the number of persons to be elected), and send such nomination paper by post to the returning officer on or before such specified day. If the number of persons nominated shall be the same or less than the number of persons to be elected, such persons shall be deemed to be duly elected for one year, or until the next annual election, and shall be certified as elected by the returning officer under his hand.

(6.) If the number nominated exceed the number to be elected, the returning officer shall send by post a voting paper in the form contained in the second schedule hereto, containing in alphabetical order the names of all persons nominated, to each person entitled to vote, and shall specify a day, not less than five days or more than ten days from the date of sending such voting paper, upon which such voting paper is to be returned to him: (7.) Every voter shall, in the presence of a witness, write his initials or make his mark against the name or names of the person or persons (not exceeding the number to be elected) for whom he intends to vote, and shall insert the number of votes he intends to give to each person, and shall strike out the name or names of every other person or persons and sign the voting paper with his name and address. In case the voter cannot write, such witness shall attest and write his own initials against

the name of every candidate for whom the voter intends to vote, and against the mark of such voter, and shall fill up the number of votes given to each candidate. In every case such witness shall subscribe his own name and address to such voting paper: (8.) Each voter shall be entitled to vote according to the following scale; (that is to say,)

If the license duty paid by him shall exceed one pound and not exceed two pounds, one vote for each member to be elected: If the license duty shall exceed two pounds but not exceed five pounds, two votes for every such member: If the license duty shall exceed five pounds and not exceed ten pounds, three votes for every such member: If the license duty shall exceed ten pounds and not exceed twenty pounds, four votes for every such member: If the license duty shall exceed twenty pounds, five votes for every such member: (9.) A voter may give all such votes to any one of the persons nominated, or may distribute them amongst such of the persons nominated, not exceeding the number to be elected, as he shall think fit: (10.) The voter shall send the voting paper by post to the returning officer, duly filled up and attested as aforesaid, on or before the day mentioned therein: (11.) In case any person entitled to vote shall not have received a voting paper, he shall be entitled, on his personal application to the returning officer, before the day fixed for the return of the voting papers, to receive and fill in a voting paper in manner aforesaid: (12.) The returning officer, within four days after the day fixed for the return to him of the voting papers, shall inquire into the validity of the votes given, and cast up and ascertain the number of valid 3G 37 VICT. c. 71, 30, 31. 433 votes given to each person nominated, and the persons in accordance with the number to be elected who shall have obtained the greatest number of valid votes shall be deemed to be elected, and the returning officer shall certify them to be so under his hand: (13.) The returning officer shall make out a list containing the names of all persons nominated, together with the number of valid votes (in case of a contest) given to each person nominated, and shall sign and certify the same, and shall deliver such list, together with the nomination and voting papers, to the board of conservators at their next meeting; and such list shall be open to the inspection of all license payers without fee or reward: (14.) The returning officer shall, immediately after ascertaining the persons elected, send by post to each person so elected a notice of his election, and shall publish the names of the persons so elected in such newspaper or newspapers circulating within the district as the board shall direct: (15.) If upon casting up the votes the returning officer shall find that an equal number of votes has been given for two or more persons, one or more of whom only is or are entitled to be elected, he shall, in the presence of two or more witnesses, determine by lot which of such persons is or are elected, and the person or persons so determined shall be deemed to be for all intents and purposes duly elected member or members of the board as if he or they had obtained a majority of the votes at such election: (16.) Any casual vacancy occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise, among such additional members of the board of conservators, may be filled up by the board; but the member chosen to fill such vacancy shall hold his office for such time only as the member vacating would have held the same if no vacancy had occurred. 31. Ectiinibu) Ojfici'r to recover Expenses. 31. The returning officer shall, at the first meeting of the board of conservators after any such election as aforesaid, lay before the board an account of the expenses incurred by him in conducting such election.

And the board of conservators shall thereupon cause the same to be audited, and may disallow any item they consider to be excessive or illegal; and shall forthwith pay the amount found due to the returning officer, and in default of payment the returning officer shall be entitled to recover from the board of conservators in a summary manner whatever shall be found due to him after such accounts have been audited.

32. Penalty on Returning Officer for wilful Neglect of Provisions as to Elections. â At any such election, if the returning officer wilfully neglects or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this Act, he shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

33. Penalty for j ersonating Voters, dc. â At any such election, if any person or persons wilfully fabricate in whole or in part, or alter, deface, destroy, abstract, or purloin any voting paper, or personate any person entitled to vote, or falsely assume to act in the name or on behalf of any person 80 entitled to vote or attest the execution of any voting paper, such person or persons shall be liable on conviction thereof to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, or to be imprisoned for any time not exceeding three months, with or without hard labour.

34. Continuance of old Boards, Ratification of their Proceedings. â Nothing in this Act contained shall be held to invalidate anything done or suffered to be done before the passing thereof, by any board of conservators formed under the powers and authority of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," and all the proceedings and acts of such boards shall be as valid and effectual as if this Act had not been passed. And the proceedings of all boards of conservators after the passing of this Act shall accordingly be subject and without prejudice to everything so done or suffered to be done, and to all rights, habiuties, claims, and demands, both present and future, which would if this Act had not been passed be incident to and consequent on any or every thing so done or suffered to be done, and the proceedings, and all proceedings of boards of conservators under this Act, shall be deemed a continuation of and form a part of the proceedings of boards of conservators constituted under " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865." And the boards of conservators appointed under 3G 37 VICT. c. 71, Â Â 3 1â 3G. 435 this Act shall to all intents and purposes represent and be deemed a continuation of the boards of conservators appointed under the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865." And no act or proceeding of any board of conservators appointed under the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 18G5," or of this Act, shall be questioned on account of any vacancy or vacancies in their body, and no defect in the qualification or appointment of any person or persons acting as member or members of any board of conservators shall be deemed to vitiate or affect any proceedings of such board in which he or they may have taken part.

35. J'hidenee of Proceediiks at Meetiiefs. â Any minute made of proceedings at a meeting of a board of conservators, signed by the chairman of such meeting, or by the chairman of the next meeting of the board, shall be receivable in evidence in all legal proceedings without further proof; and until the contrary is proved every meeting of the board in respect of the proceedings of which minutes have been so made, shall be deemed to have been duly convened and held, and all the members thereof to have been duly qualified.

Part VI.â Powers of Water Bailiffs.

36. rollers of Water Baiujf. â Any water bailiff appointed under " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," acting within the limits of his district, may do all or any of the following things; (that is to say,) (1.) Examine any weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or obstruction, or any artificial watercom'se connected with any salmon river; and any person refusing to any water bailiff access to any such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, obstruction, or watercourse, shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding five pounds: (2.) Stop and search on any salmon river any boat, barge, coi'acle, or other vessel used in fishing, or which there is reasonable cause to suspect contains any salmon, and seize any fish, instrument of fishing, or other articles foi-feited in pursuance of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 18G1 to 1873;" and any 2 G person refusing to allow any such boat, barge, coracle, or other vessel to be stopped and searched, or resisting or obstructing any water bailiff in any such search, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds: (3.) Search and examine all nets, baskets, bags, or other instruments used in fishing or in carrying fish by persons whom there is reasonable cause to suspect of having possession of fish iuegally caught; seize all fish and other articles forfeited in pursuance of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873;" and any person refusing to allow any nets, baskets, bags, or other instruments used in fishing or in carrying fish to be searched or examined, or resisting or obstructing any water bailiff' in any such search or examination, shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds; (4.) For the enforcement of the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," every water bailifi" shall be deemed to be a constable, and to have all the same powers and privileges, and be subject to the same liabilities as a constable duly appointed now has or is subject to in his constable-wick, by virtue of the common law of the realm or of any statute; (5.) The production by a water bailiff of the instrument of his appointment, executed in the manner prescribed in " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," shall be a sufficient warrant for any water bailiff exercising the authorities given to him under " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873."

A water baili ff under sub-section (1) may examine any dam, c., in a salmon river in his district, but no power is given to him either by this or the 37th section to enter any mill premises, though he may obtain such power in some cases under Act 1861, Â 34. See also Act 1865, Â 31.

Under sub-section (2) the bailiff must stop the boat upon a salmon river, and such river generally includes the tidal waters within his district. The bailiff cannot follow the boat or its contents after they have left tlle water. As to the articles and fish wllch he may seize, he must refer to the various sections of the Acts 1861, 1865, and this Act, in order to see whether the particular section declares the forfeiture.

The builiir umler sub-section (3) is not entitled as a matter uf coi'u'se to sfarccli the nets, baslcl ts, or bags used in fishing or carrying fish, but merely where he luis reasonable cause to suspect the i)erson of illegally catching tish. The power must be exercised while the person is in course of fishing or of carrying the fish iluring such fishing, but does not extend to persons carrying tish in a highway or elsewhere after the fishing is over. The bailifi' cannot follow the person after the fishing is over, and then search his nets or bags; nor can the bailiff search the pockets of the person

fishing, though containing fish. If, however, a bailiff has (though illegally) searched the pockets of a fisherman and found the young of salmon therein, the latter may be convicted, and he may have his remedy against the bailiff in another form: *Jones v. Owens*, 34 J. P. 759. An assault on or resistance of a constable is punished under 24 Vict. c. 100, Â 38, and 34 35 Vict. c. 112, Â 12. The water bailiff should, under sub-section (5), produce his appointment before acting.

37. Water Bailiff may enter on Land. â Any water bailiff may under a special order in A Titing from the board of conservators, signed by the chairman for the time being of such board, for this purpose at all reasonable times enter, remain upon, and traverse any lands, not being a dwelling-house or the curtilage thereof, adjoining or near to any salmon river within the fishery district of such board, for the purpose of preventing any breach of the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873;" and no water bailiff entering, remaining upon, or traversing any land in pursuance of such order shall be deemed a trespasser. Provided always, that this section shall not apply to decoys or lands used exclusively for the preservation of wild fowl, and that no such order shall remain in force for more than two months from the date thereof. But nothing herein contained shall affect any other powers of search conferred by " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873."

This section omits the word "lakes," and therefore the bailiff will not be entitled to traverse the banks of lakes, though the words " salmon river " may include estuaries.

As to a justice's authority to enter premises and land, see Act 1861, Â 34, and Act 1865, Â 31.

38. Persons fishing illegally at Night may be apprehended. â If any person, between the expiration of the first hour after sunset on any day and the beginning of the last hour before sunrise of the following morning, illegally takes or kills salmon or trout or char, or is found on or near any salmon river with intent illegally to take or kill salmon or trout or char, or having in his possession for the capture of salmon or trout or char any instrument prohibited by the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873, it shall be lawful for any water bailiff, together with any assistants, to seize and apprehend any such offender without warrant, and to deliver him, as soon as may be, into the custody of a peace officer, in order to his being conveyed before two justices of the peace for the purpose of being convicted in the penalty assigned for his offence.

The words in brackets are introduced by the 18th section of this Act. The section applies to close and fishing season.

The power of arrest given to a water bailiff is confined to the night-time, that is to say, between sunset and sunrise, as defined, and he cannot arrest persons during the day-time. The offences for which he may arrest are (1.) Where the person has illegally taken or killed salmon or trout or char. It may be doubted whether the arrest must be made only when the person has been caught in the act, so to speak, and on the spot. The context will probably lead the courts to this construction, whether it was intended or not. The illegal taking or killing of salmon does not mean poaching, but merely fishing during close or weekly season, and with illegal or prohibited instruments or means, for the Larceny Act deals with mere poaching more effectually. Where the person has merely an intention to catch salmon or trout or char illegally, then he cannot be apprehended except he is found on or near a salmon river with such

intent, or unless he is found on or near such river having prohibited instruments in his possession, such as sjjears, snatches, and small meshed nets. If the person has a net during close time, it may be doubted whether this is a " prohibited instrument" within the meaning of this section, seeing that a proper meshed net is only pvdliibited at certain times of the year, but if the net is of illegal mesh then it is clearly a prohibited instrument. Moreover, if the person has taken or killed, or had the intent to take or kill fish with the net, whether legal or illegal in mesh, he will come within the two first clauses of this section.

In all the circumstances of this section it is thus essential that the person be found on the spot and in the act; and if he has left the salmon river and is on a highway, the bailiff cannot ajprehend the person. See the observations as to apprehending poachers under the Larceny Act, ante, p. 77, all of which observations efpially apply to the present enactment. The Larceny

Act in effect gives power to arrest poadiers both by niglit and Uay, and tliis enactment merely extends tlie same provisions as the Larceny Act contains to the case of tislilin at prohil)ited times and with)roliibited instrnments, and by pruhibited means, whicli were not within tlie provisions of the Larceny Act.

Paet VII,â Bye-laws.

39. Boards witij jiuike Ihc-lairs for certain Purposes. â Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained for the confirmation and publication of bye-laws, a board of conservators may make bye-huvs for the better execution of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 18G1 to 1873," and for the better protection, preservation, and improvement of the salmon fisheries within their district, and alter the same from time to time for all or any of the following purposes; (that is to say,) (1.) To alter the commencement and termination of tho annual close season as to the whole or part of the district, so that such close season, when so altered, shall not be less than one hundred and fifty-four days, for all modes of salmon fishing, except with rod and hue, and shall not commence later than the first of November in each year, and as regards fishing with rod and line, so that such close season shall not be less than ninety-two days, and shall not commence latpr than the first of December in each year: (2.) To alter tho commencement and termination of the weekly close season as to the whole or part of a district, so that such season shall not commence before six o'clock on Friday afternoon, and not terminate earlier than midnight on the Sunday following, nor continue later than twelve o'clock on tho following Monday at noon, such weekly close time in no case to exceed forty-eight hours: (3.) To determine the length, size, and description of nets, and the manner of using the same (not being fixed engines) for taking salmon: Provided that no bye-law made under the authority of this section shall limit the length of a hang-net, or limit the length of a draft-net so as to be less than two hundred yards: (4.) To determine the minimum size of the mesh of nets for catching salmon that shall be lawfully used within the district, so that such mesh shall not be less than one and a half inch from knot to knot, and so that no person shall be compelled to use a mesh larger than two and a half inches, measured when wet: (5.) To determine the form of license and the manner in which licenses shall be issued, provided that different forms be used for licenses for fishing in public or common and in private fisheries: (6.) To vary the rate of license duty in different parts of the district, in respect of the length or

size of the net used, so that such duty shall not exceed the sum mentioned in the third schedule hereto: (7.) To determine what marks, labels, or numbers shall be attached to licensed nets, or painted upon or affixed to boats, coracles, or other vessels used in fishing: (8.) To prohibit the use of nets within a certain distance of the mouth of any river, and of the point of confluence of rivers in any part of the district (not being a several fishery), and to erect and fix posts, buoys, and landmarks to indicate such distances respectively: (9.) To determine the times during which it shall be lawful to use a gaff in connexion with a rod and line: (10.) To determine when gratings shall be placed during certain times of the year across the head and tail race of mills and across any artificial channel, so, however, as not to diminish the supply of water to any mill, nor to interfere with the passage of vessels or otherwise injure any inland navigation or lock, but so that the provisions of the thirteenth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, shall not be affected: (11.) To regulate during the annual and weekly close seasons the use within any river of nets for fish other than salmon, when such use at such times is prejudicial to the salmon fisheries: Provided that nothing in this sub-section contained shall authorize anything to be done which shall affect any part of any river in which part there is a several right of fishery, or any river or part of any river where the breadth at low water is greater than six miles: (12.) To prohibit the use in any inland water of any net, except a landing-net or a net for taking eels, between the expiration of the first hour after sunset and the last hour before sunrise:

And the said board may, by any such bye-law, impose a penalty not exceeding the sum of five pounds for each offence against such bye-law; such penalties shall be recovered and applied in manner hereinafter provided: Provided always, that such bye-law, having been reduced to writing and sealed with the common seal of the board, shall be confirmed and published in manner hereinafter provided, and shall be so framed as to allow the justices before whom any penalty imposed thereby shall be sought to be recovered to order the whole or part only of such penalty to be paid: Provided also, that no bye-law shall be made unless notice of an intention to propose the same shall have been given in the notice convening the meeting of the conservators at which it is intended to propose such bye-law, which notice shall be issued one fortnight at least before the date of such meeting.

This and the following sections (taken mainly from Dodds' Bill) confer new powers on boards of conservators, and if worked out legally will remedy many of the mischiefs arising out (if the application of one uniform law to rivers and districts without regard to their varying conditions, as has been hitherto the case. Bye-laws are void if repugnant to the law of the land, though they may enable detailed objections to have the effect of law if they are in strict conformity with the power given by the Act. Thus they may enable a smaller meshed net to be used and a different close time to be observed, &c., if the right mode of procedure be followed out. Each of the subsequent sections contains the general power under which the particular bye-law on that subject must be framed. Though the bye-laws require confirmation by the secretary of state before they come into operation, such confirmation has not the effect of conclusively establishing the validity of the bye-law. A convenient mode of disputing the validity of a bye-law is by taking the objection of its invalidity before justices in case of any penalty being enforced under it, and then to obtain a case for the opinion of a superior court.

Before a bye-law is proposed, the board is to give a fortnight's notice of the same, and though the statute does not require it, such notice should contain a copy of the proposed bye-law.

40. Bye-laws may apply to all or Part only of a District, and to Whole or Parts of a Year. A board of conservators may make any bye-law to apply to the whole or to any part or parts of their district, and to the whole or any part or parts of the year, and may from time to time by any new bye-law revoke, vary, or alter, either in whole or in part, or as to its application to the whole or to any part or parts of the district, any bye-law previously made, and may from time to time vary any bye-law made in respect of the whole or any part or parts of the district, and may from time to time except or exclude from the operation of all or any of the bye-laws any part or parts of the district, or extend the operation of any bye-law made for any part or parts of the district to the whole or other parts of the district.

The power to revoke and vary bye-laws seems to be subject to the same fortnight's notice as in case of making a new bye-law.

41. Bye-laws not to come into Operation until confirmed by the Secretary of State. No bye-law made by such board of conservators shall come into operation until the same be confirmed by one of Her Majesty's secretaries of state, who may direct an inquiry into the same at such time and place, and before such persons, and after giving such notices as he shall think fit; and with or without such inquiry he may allow or disallow the said bye-laws as he shall think fit: Provided that if at any time before the confirmation of any bye-law for any purpose mentioned in sub-sections one, two, three, four, or eight of section thirty-nine, any owner or occupier of any fishery or any licensee who would be affected by any such bye-law shall, by notice in writing to the secretary of state, object thereto, and shall give such security for the payment of any costs attending the inquiry and the notice hereinafter mentioned as the secretary of state may require, the secretary of state shall either disallow such bye-law or cause a public inquiry to be held in some convenient place by such person or persons as he may appoint, when all persons interested may have the opportunity of being heard; and after such inquiry the secretary of state shall either disallow such bye-law or give one month's notice of his intention to allow the same by advertisement in some newspaper or newspapers circulating in the district affected thereby.

The secretary of state may in all cases direct an inquiry into the effect of any proposed bye-law. In reference to sub-sections 1, 2, 3, 4, or 8 of Â 39, a right of objection is given to an owner or occupier or licensee, but unless he is prepared to pay the costs of an inquiry into the subject, the secretary of state may disregard his objection. Though the result may be to confirm the bye-law, it is singular that this right of objection is not given as to the most important of all the bye-laws, and that which may practically confiscate many fisheries, namely, sub-section No. 12.

42. Bye-laws to be open to Inspection before Application to confirm them. For one month at least before any application for confirmation of any bye-laws, notice of the intention of the said board to apply for such confirmation shall be given once in each week by advertisement in one or more newspapers circulating in the district, and a copy of the proposed bye-laws shall be kept at the office of the board, or some place to be appointed by the chairman for that purpose, and all persons may at all reasonable

times inspect such copy without fee or reward, and the said board shall furnish every person who shall apply for the same with a copy thereof, or of any part thereof, on payment of one penny.

43. Bye-laws when confirmed to be printed and published. â The said bye-laws when confirmed shall be printed, and the secretary or clerk to the said board shall deliver a printed copy thereof to every person who shall pay license duty without charge, and a copy thereof shall be placed and renewed from time to time, on boards, or put up in some conspicuous place or places within the district, and shall be open to inspection without fee or reward; and in case the said secretary or clerk shall wilfully refuse to deliver or to allow the same to be inspected as aforesaid, he shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

44. Bye-laws when confirmed and published to be binding on all Persons. â Any bye-law made, confirmed, and published according to the provisions of this Act, shall be binding and be observed by all parties, and shall be sufficient to justify all persons acting under the same.

45. Bye-laws proved by Copy having Seal of Board and Publication in Newspapers. â The production of a written or printed copy of any bye-law purporting to have been confirmed, authenticated by the common seal of the board, shall be conclusive evidence of the existence and due making of such bye-law in all legal proceedings, and the production of a copy of any newspaper or newspapers containing the notice of the making of any such bye-law shall be taken and received in all legal proceedings as evidence that all things required by this Act for the making and publication of the bye-law therein advertised have been duly done, performed, and published.

Part VIII.â Weirs and Fish Passes.

46. Penalty on all Persons rebuilding Weirs and making new Weirs without Fish Passes, and raising or altering Weirs so as to increase Obstruction to Passage of Salmon. â Every person who in any salmon river, since the sixth day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, has created, caused, or increased, or who hereafter shall create, cause, or increase any obstruction to the passage of salmon, or who rebuilds or reinstates a weir or dam which from any cause shall have been destroyed or taken down to the extent of one half of the length of such weir, dam, or obstruction, shall make a fish pass for salmon of such form and dimensions as the secretary of state shall approve, as part of the structure thereof, if none already exists, and every person who omits or fails to make such fish pass in such weir, or who newly builds a weir without providing such fish pass, or who raises or alters any existing weir in whole or part, so as to cause increased obstruction to the passage of salmon, or who makes or continues any obstruction whatsoever to the passage of salmon without lawful authority, shall incur a penalty of not exceeding twenty pounds for every such offence, and a further penalty of not exceeding two pounds for every day during which such offence is continued, commencing from the date of the first conviction; and it shall be lawful for the secretary of state to cause to be done any work by this section required to be done by such person, and to recover the expenses of doing the same in a summary manner from such person, or from the owner or occupier of such obstruction who shall neglect to do the same. But this section shall not authorize anything to be done that may injuriously affect any navigable river, canal, or inland

navigation, public waterworks, dock or docks, the supply of water to which is obtained from any navigable river, canal, or inland navigation, under the provisions of any Act of parliament, nor shall anything in this section or in the twenty-fifth section of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," prevent any person from removing a fish pass for the purpose of repairing or altering such obstruction, so that within a reasonable time he restore such fish pass in as effectual a state as it was before he removed the same; and for the purpose of this section the owner or occupier of any such obstruction for the time being shall be deemed to be the person who created or caused or increased such obstruction in manner aforesaid.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill, with variations) impliedly repeals the 25th section of the Act 1861. It is unnecessary that the obligation of the person who rebuilds or newly builds a weir is restricted to making a fish pass which the secretary of state shall approve, for in the event of the pass, after approval, being inefficient, all the expenses of further alteration will fall on the board of conservators, or whoever is dissatisfied with it. If the obligation had been to make a sufficient fish pass it would have been different, and the obligation might have been easily and inexpensively enforced by justices.

An important enactment in this section is the imposing a penalty on any person who makes or continues an obstruction to the passage of salmon without lawful authority, which if properly applied will reach a number of cases hitherto without a remedy. The encroachments so frequently made by mill-owners in repairing and altering their dams, if carefully watched, may by this enactment be prevented.

47. Member of Board may recover Compensation. — In case any member of the board of conservators of the district is the owner of any weir, dam, fishing mill dam, or obstruction, nothing in " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," shall prevent the board paying to such member any compensation in respect of the same, provided that such member does not vote in respect of the payment of any such compensation to himself.

48. Penalty on Injuring and Rendering Fish Pass inefficient. — Any person wilfully altering or injuring any fish pass, or doing any act whereby fish are obstructed or liable to be obstructed in using such fish pass, or whereby such fish pass is rendered less efficient, or altering the bed or banks of the river so as to render any fish pass less efficient, or using any contrivance or doing any act whereby fish are in anywise liable to be scared, hindered, or prevented from passing through such fish pass, shall for every such offence incur a penalty of not exceeding five pounds, and a further penalty of not exceeding one pound for every day during which any such alteration, obstruction, or contrivance is continued from the date of a second conviction for such offence, in addition to any expense which may be incurred in restoring such fish pass to its former state of efficiency.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill, but altered) will enable persons to be punished in a summary manner for injuring any fish pass which has been made in a weir under the Act 1861, s. 23. The section does not apply to those owners who in exercise of their rights of property have voluntarily made or allowed others to make a fish pass, which, as they were under no obligation to make it, they can also unmake or remove at their discretion. Where, however, a third party tampers with such pass, the owner has this

convenient remedy, if he chooses to enforce it, or if other remedies are less efficient. The section might have been rendered much more effective and comprehensive if there had been appropriate enactments enabling adequate fish passes to be made in all weirs, and defining the position of all parties in reference thereto when made. With its present context the section is merely an expansion of part of Act 1861, § 23.

49. Board, if desirous of acquiring compulsorily a Weir or Obstruction for the Purposes of Removal, may petition Secretary of State. Where any board of conservators shall be of opinion, having regard to the prejudicial effect upon the salmon fisheries of their district, caused by any weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction which hinders the passage of fish, that it would be beneficial to such fisheries if such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction should be removed, in whole or in part, but the owner thereof shall be unwilling or unable to treat, or they cannot agree to the terms of purchase thereof, and such board shall be desirous of obtaining authority to acquire compulsorily the property of such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, and premises, for the purposes of such removal, such board may, after giving one month's notice of their intention to the owner thereof, present a petition to the secretary of state praying that such board may, with reference to such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, and the premises used in connexion therewith, be allowed to put in force the powers of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts with respect to the purchase and taking of lands otherwise than by agreement, and such prayer shall be supported by such evidence as the secretary of state may require.

Upon the receipt of such petition, and upon due proof of notice being given to the owner and occupier of such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, the secretary of state, after satisfying himself that the board are provided with funds for the purchase of such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, and the premises connected therewith, shall take such petition into consideration, and may either dismiss the same or direct an inquiry in the district in which such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, or artificial obstruction is situated, or otherwise inquire into the propriety of assenting to the prayer of such petition.

After the completion of such inquiry, the secretary of state may, by provisional order, empower the said board to put in force with reference to the said weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, and premises referred to in such order, the powers of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts with respect to the purchase and taking of lands otherwise than by agreement, with such conditions and modifications as he may think fit, and the board shall serve a copy of any order so made upon the owner and occupier of the said weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction and premises. No provisional order so made shall be of any validity until the same has been confirmed by Act of parliament, and the Act confirming such order shall be deemed to be a public general Act of parliament, and the said board shall be thereupon deemed and taken to be the promoters of an undertaking to remove the said weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, in whole or part, so as to enable salmon to

pass more freely, and the residue of the premises so purchased, when separated from such weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction, shall be deemed to be superfluous lands within the meaning of the said Acts, and may be dealt with accordingly: Provided that this section shall not extend to any weir constructed under any Act of parliament for the purpose of improving the navigation of any river, or of supplying any town with water. For the purposes of this section the word owner shall mean any person or corporation who under the provisions of this clause and the Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts would be enabled to sell and convey any such weir, dam, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, or artificial obstruction.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill) will be useful in cases where the owner of an obstructive weir is entitled to maintain it as it is, and is disinclined to sell it, and yet the interests of the fisheries cannot properly be maintained without removing the obstruction. The remedy will, however, be tedious and expensive. The remedy is confined to cases where the weir exists in a fishery district, and where the board of conservators have funds enough to purchase not only the weir but the premises connected therewith. When, these are purchased and the weir or part of it removed, the board may sell the premises detached from the weir or from that part of it which has been removed, and if the matter is judiciously managed they could in most cases be able to re-sell these premises with the water rights all but uninjured, and after getting all they want accomplished.

50. Provision as to Fish Passes. — When any proprietor of a fishery or board of conservators is or are, from the circumstances of the case, unable to attach a fish pass to any weir, dam, fishing mill dam, or obstruction under the provisions of the twenty-third section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, such proprietor or board of conservators may, after giving such notice as is prescribed in the last preceding section, present a petition to the secretary of state praying to be allowed to purchase so much of the bank adjoining the same as may be necessary for such fish pass, and the provisions contained in the last preceding section with reference to the proceedings upon a petition for the purchase of any weir or obstruction for the purpose of removal shall apply to a petition presented under the provisions of this section.

This section seems designed to enable the secretary of state to do in the river bank adjoining a weir what he could formerly do only in the bed of the river, namely, authorize a fish pass to be attached to the dam, "so that no injury be done to the milling power." This section is founded on a misconception, for it was no more necessary for the party or the board of conservators to purchase a few yards of the soil in the one case than in the other case. Yet this section contains that the board of conservators or a proprietor of a fishery shall go through the form of a compulsory purchase of a few yards of soil which shall take about two or three years to accomplish. Yet when the piece of soil is purchased there is no direction or provision as to what is to be done with or constructed upon it. The result is, that all that can be done is to make the same kind of fish pass as that described in the Act 1861, s. 23, which has hitherto been found incapable of yielding any effective service. Whether a pass of the kind described is made in the bed of the river attached to the dam or on the bank of the river can make no difference whatever as regards efficiency, seeing that each pass must be such "that no injury is done to the milling power;" and as already observed in the notes

to Â 23 of the Act 1861, such a pass is of little value. In order to make an efficient fish pass in all weirs, appropriate machinery must be devised by the legislature for the jirojier carrying out of the pass and imitating the parties interested, and this is still *Avantiu*," in this or the previous statutes. It is thus not likely that this section will be acted on any more than the 23rd section of the Act 1861, yet that section was (unlike the present section) unaccompanied by the expensive formality of first purchasing a few yards of soil.

51. Provision as to Fishing Weirs not now provided in Fish Passes. In any case where the Special commissioners for English fisheries have decided that any fishing mill dam, box, crib, or cruive is illegal only by reason of its not having a fish pass attached thereto as required by law, if the owner thereof enters into an undertaking to erect and maintain at his own expense a fish pass in accordance with the provisions of the twelfth section of "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1801," before the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, it shall be lawful for such person to use, from and after the erection of such fish pass, the said fishing mill dam, box, crib, or cruive for taking salmon, any provision in "The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," to the contrary, notwithstanding: Provided nevertheless, that in the event of the owner of such fishing mill dam, box, crib, or cruive not making such fish pass within the time above mentioned, his right of fishing or using such fishing mill dam, box, crib, or cruive for the purpose of taking fish shall henceforth cease, and be forever forfeited and lost, and the board of conservators for the district in which such fishing mill dam, box, crib, or cruive is situated shall thereupon give notice to such owner to remove all or any cages, cribs, traps, boxes, cruives, or other contrivances for catching salmon within six calendar months after the service of such notice; and in the event of his non-compliance with such notice, the board aforesaid shall have power to remove the same and all other obstructions to the free passage of the fish.

This section is founded on a misconception, as there were no fishing mill dams found by the special commissioners to be illegal only by reason of not having a fish pass. All those that were found legal were legal in all respects, though they had not a fish pass, for there was no obligation imposed on the owners of fishing mill dams to make a fish pass, except in the case where the fishing mill dam had been made since 1861, and no such fishing mill dam was claimed before the commissioners or found legal by them. The owners of fishing mill dams found legal by the commissioners were not required by any statute or by any common law to make a fish pass, and therefore were not subject to any proceeding either by action or indictment or any summary process for not making a fish pass. The only provision on the subject in the Acts was that of the Act 1861, Â 12, which stated that owners could not use their fishing box in a fishing mill dam, though such fishing mill dam was legal, until they had made a fish pass, thereby suspending the right of fishing, but in no sense was their dam illegal for the want of a fish pass. This section will therefore prove abortive, though it would have been a just and fair thing if the legislature had positively declared that such owners should at their own expense make a fish pass within a certain time, or otherwise that one should be made at their expense. Instead of such an enactment, which would have been judicious and effective, the utmost that the present enactment would have done, even if it had been enacted, would have been to confiscate the

fishing box, but nevertheless not to make any tisl pass, whereas tlie making' f tlie hsh ass is the only tiling' wanted in such cjuseh to an)i'nl the law, ami rt'store the fisheries t() the natural statf. See also the notes to Act 1861, Â 12, and Act ISO"), Â 4;2.

52. Secretary of State)iini ajiprove e. visti)); Fish Pasi es. â In all cases where any fish pass lias been already constructed in any woir, dam, or fishing mill dam, and has received the approval of the secretary of state, such fish pass shall be deemed to be a fish pass within the meaning of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 18G1 to 1873," notwithstanding such fish pass was not constructed in the manner and by the parties specified in " The Salmon Fishery Acts, IBG1 to 187B." And it shall be lawful for the secretary of state to approve and certify any fish pass that now is or hereafter shall be constructed, if he is of opinion that such fish pass is otfieieit in all respects and for all purposes, as if the same had been constructed under the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1801," with the written consent and approbation of the secretary of state.

The object of this section, though not apparent in any part of its language, seems to be in a circuitous manner to impose jienalties on those owners of dams who have at great expense made fish passes, as they were entitled to do if they pleased upon their own property, but had not asked or obtained any appioval from the secretary of state. Each owner is entitled if he pleasfsto make a fisli pass in his own jiroperty, and needs no consent of third parties to do so; on the contrary, third parties ought to feel under great ol)lil, Mtions to him for incurring the expense. No jirudent owner of a dam, however, after incurring such expenditure, would be disposed to give up all control over his own pro)crtcy merely because he has expended money to oblige his neighbours and the)ublic by making a fish pass; and the last thing which mie would expect from the legislature would be a jji-nal clause" jjiunishing him with)eualties if for any reason he sliould tiud the pass operate to his jirejudice, and if he should change his mind and Avithdraw the favour he had granted. This sectiitn will unfortunately deter any owner from in future making a fish ass at his own expense, or ever allowing third parties to do so at their expense, if any punishment is likely to follow for doing so. "Whi-n the section is examined, however, it Avill be seen that the owner of a dam who has volunt-iirily made a fish pass is not subjected by this section, or Vy anything that can be done under this section, to any penaltii-s mentioned in Act 1861, Â Â 23, 26, or Â 48 of this Act, as new ' 2 H penalties cannot Ly vague and indii-ect language be imposed on any person ex j ost facto. If the legislature had intended to impose penalties by this section, it would have expressly said so. There can thus be no harm in the secretary of state approving anything that an owner has voluntarily done, even though such approval is not asked; but at the same time it is not easy to discover what advantage is to accrue from such approval.

53. Amendment of Sections 23, 24, and 26 of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861."â The following sections of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1861," shall be respectively amended in the following manner; (that is to say,)

The twenty-third and twenty-fourth sections thereof shall be read as if the words "or a board of conservators " were inserted after the words " proprietor of a fishery" or "proprietor" throughout such sections respectively: The twenty-sixth section thereof shall be construed as if the words "where a fish pass is attached to any-darn in pursuance of this Act " were omitted, and the words " any dam " were substituted for the words "

the dam," and the words " on Sundays and" were inserted after the words "kept shut," and the words " if any or over the dam" were inserted after the words " fish pass."

The words here directed to be interpolated in the sections of the Act 1861 will be found in such sections, the notes to which may be referred to.

54. Compensation to be paid on erecting Fish Passes or Gratings. â In all cases in which it is alleged that a board of conservators, in executing the powers and authorities of the Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873, have caused any damage to or injuriously affected any land or other hereditaments by reason of the making or maintaining of any fish pass, grating, or other work, if the compensation claimed in respect of such alleged damage shall not exceed the sum of fifty pounds, the same shall be settled by two justices of the peace, but if the compensation shall exceed the sum of fifty pounds the same shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Common Law Procedure Act, 1854: Provided always, that no compensation shall be recovered under this section unless proceedings for the recovery of the same are instituted within two years from the date of the erection of such fish pass, grating, or other work.

This section does not extend the powers contained in the other sections of the Acts, but merely professes to direct how the compensation arising out of the lawful exercise of the powers granted by other sections is to be ascertained. The reference to the provisions of the Common Law Procedure Act, 1854, is obviously founded on a misapprehension, as that statute does not contain any provisions as to settling questions of compensation. That statute only directs that in questions of mere account a judge may, against the wish of the parties, direct an arbitrator to ascertain the amount due. But questions of compensation are not questions of mere account, and it may well be doubted whether this reference to the Common Law Procedure Act, 1854, is not too vague to be capable of being acted upon.

55. Provision as to Severn Navigation Weirs, â Whereas it is expedient that the dams or weirs which have been constructed by the Severn commissioners under the provisions of " The Severn Navigation Acts, 1842 and 1853," should be placed under the same general law as is applicable to dams or weirs under " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1801 to 1873:" Be it therefore enacted, that sections one hundred and fifty-eight, one hundred and fifty-nine, and one hundred and sixty of " The Severn Navigation Act, 1842," and so much of section three of " The Severn Navigation Act, 1858," as extends their operation to the Tewkesbury Weir therein mentioned, be hereby repealed, and that each of the dams or weirs constructed by the Severn commissioners under the provisions of " The Severn Navigation Acts, 1842 and 1853," respectively, or either of them, shall be deemed a dam or weir within the meaning of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," and the provisions of the said Acts shall apply thereto, and that every fish pass now existing in the said dams or weirs or either of them, or which may be constructed therein under the provisions of this Act, shall be deemed a fish pass within the meaning of " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1801 to 1873," and shall be maintained in an efficient state by the said Severn commissioners.

56. Power to enter and inspect Weirs, Dams, &c. â Any inspector, or any person or persons duly appointed in writing by a board of conservators, may at all times enter upon any lands to inspect any weir, dam, fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed

engine, obstruction, mill race, or watercourse, and any person either refusing to admit or obstructing them or any of them in entering any such place or places shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty of not exceeding five pounds.

This section is confined to the places mentioned, and does not apply to the banks of rivers, or hives or estuaries, or to mill ponds. The purpose is confined to inspection only.

57. Board may levy additional Duty for permanent Improvements. In addition to the license duties authorized to be levied in a fishery district, the board of conservators may from time to time, with the sanction of the secretary of state, for the purpose of defraying the charges of any improvements made or about to be made for the purpose of facilitating the passage of salmon, levy additional license duties throughout the district, not exceeding in any one year twenty-five per cent, of the sum paid by each person respectively, and the said additional duty shall be payable at the same time as and in addition to the ordinary license duty, and shall for all the purposes of the Salmon Fishery Acts be deemed part of the ordinary license duty, and no license granted after the passing of this Act without payment of such additional duty, if any, as well as the license duty applicable thereto, shall be valid: Provided, that notice shall be given by the board, by advertisement in one or more local newspapers, one calendar month before the commencement of each fishing season, of the amount of such additional duty to be paid in addition to the ordinary license duties in force in each district. And the estimate on which such additional duty is founded shall be kept by the clerk or other officer of the board, and be open to the inspection of all previous license payers, riparian owners, and persons entitled to vote within the "district, at reasonable times and places to be appointed by the board before the commencement of each fishing season.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill) will enable boards of conservators to add to the ordinary license duties a percentage to defray any extraordinary expenses for improvements over and above the current ordinary expenditure. The object of allowing inspection of the estimate on which such improvement duty is founded is to enable the members and license payers to challenge the propriety of the extraordinary expenditure.

Part IX. Gratings to prevent Fish entering Tidal- COUSES.

58. Provisions in Widercourses. Any board of conservators after due notice to the owner or occupier of any mill or other premises, at the expense of such board during such period as may be prescribed in each year, may order to be placed in any watercourse, mill race, cut, leat, or other channel for conveying water for any purpose from any river frequented by salmon at or near the point of divergence from and return to such river, or either of them, or in any other suitable place, a grating of such form and dimensions as they shall determine: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall affect the liability of any person to place and maintain a grating or gratings across any artificial channel under the provisions of the thirteenth section of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1859, nor shall authorize any grating to be placed so as to obstruct any channel used for navigation or in any way to interfere with the effective working of any mill.

This section confines the benefit of gi-atings to fisliery districts, and nothing can be done until the board shall have first made a bye-law under Â 39, sub-sect. 10, determining at what times of the year gratings shall be placed. The board is in all cases to be at the expense of the grating.

59. *Poucr to ui'den Chinneh.* â In all cases of construction of gratings under the powers of this Act, the secretary of state may, in such cases as he shall deem expedient, cause any watercourse, mill race, cut, leat, or other channel to be widened at the expense of such board, so far as necessary to compensate for the diminution of any flow of water caused by the erection of any grating, or shall take some other means to prevent the flow of water being prejudicially diminished or otherwise injured.

This section (taken from Dodds' Bill) will, if properly carried out, ctfectually prevent fish entering mill races, c., without prejudicing the mill In all cases it will be necessary, for the jirotection of the niillowner, to widen the mill races, unless the fall of water is such that the race may be deepened to a corresponding extent, or unless an additional race is made. Express power ought to have been taken to make an additional race, which will often be as effective a remedy as widening the race, and sometimes the only remedy.

60. *Board may jdace Gratings at Mouths of Streams.* â A board of conservators, with the consent of the secretary of Btate, may adopt such means as he shall approve for preventing the ingress of salmon into streams in which they or their spawning beds are, from the nature of the channel, liable to be destroyed, but so that no water rights used or enjoyed for the purposes of manufacture, or agricultural purposes, or drainage or navigation, shall be prejudicially interfered with thereby.

As this section will enable the board of conservators and secretary of state to confiscate rights of fishery in rivers, it is singular that no provision should have been made for givug any notice to the owner of the hshery affected. But it is not likely that the secretary of state will approve any proposition of this kind without seeing that the interest of third parties is duly considered. The words " from the nature of the channel liable to be destroyed" are vague, and will cause much dithculty, and as there is no mode of determining conclusively what streams fulhl this description, a door is left open for contention and litigation.

61. *Oivner to preserve Gratings.* â The owner or occupier of the lands adjoining any grating erected under the authority of this Act, and the owner or occupier of the lands to which such watercourse, mill race, cut, leat, or other channel leads, shall take all reasonable means to preserve the said gratings from injury, and to prevent the same from being removed, and in case any owner, occupier, or other person shall injure such gratings, or remove any part of them, during the period prescribed for any such grating to be kept up by any bye-law made under the authority of this Act, or open them improperly, or knowingly permit them to be injured or removed or improperly opened, he shall for every such injury, removal, or improper opening, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding five pounds.

This section does not throw the expense of maintaining the gratings on the owner of the land or niillowner, hut na-rely imposes a penalty on them if they wilfully injure or remove them.

Part X.â Legal Procedure.

62. Recover) of Penalties. â All penalties imposed by " The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873," or by any bye-law made in pursuance of this Act, and all sums of money, costs, and expenses by the said Acts or either of them directed to be recovered in a summary manner, may be recovered within six months after the commission of the offence before two justices, in manner directed by an Act passed in the eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, chapter forty-three, intituled "An Act to facilitate the Performance of the Duties of Justices of the Peace out of Sessions within England and Wales, with respect to Summary Conviction and Orders," or of any Act amending the same. And all moneys received and penalties recovered midcr the said Acts or any of them on the complaint of a board of conservators, or of any officer of or a person authorized by a board of conservators, shall be paid to the board of conservators for the district, to be applied by them for the purposes of "The Salmon Fishery Acts, 1861 to 1873" (unless the court for some special reason otherwise order).

This section is very defective. It does not pro-vide for all the cases of summary procedure authorized under the Acts. The limitation of time is also defective, inasnnich as it is defined only to run from the " commission of the oftnce." There is no appeal given to quarter sessions by this or the Act 1865, Â 66, except as regards the decision of justices Avith respect to any penalty or forfeiture. There is also no provision in this or the other Acts as to what is to be done with forfeitures, nor is there any provision as to the api)lication of penalties, except where the board of conservators or some officer of the board lias laid the complaint, in which case the wliole penalty is to be paid to the board, unless the justices otherwise order for special rea' on. Auy reason, it seems, â would be a special reason. Where, therefore, some person other than the board makes the comjjlaint, the penalty goes to the treasurer of the county or borough.

63. lleti(-ns. â The clerk, secretary, or other officer where there is no clerk, of every board of conservators shall prepare and forward to the Home Office, before such date as the secretary of state shall from time to time appoint, an annual return in such form and made up to such date as the secretary of state shall from time to time appoint. Such return shall contain such information as the said secretary of state shall from time to time require; and any such person refusing or neglecting to make such return shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding one pound for every such refusal or neglect.

04. Proof of Lefdliti of Scale of Licevxes. â The provisions of the "Documentary Evidence Act, 1868," shall apply to a scale of licenses approved by the secretary of state, in pursuance of the said " Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," or this Act, in the same manner as if such scale so approved as aforesaid were an order or regulation issued by such secretary of state, and the production of a copy of such scale of licenses, purporting to be certified to be a correct copy of such scale, by any person empowered to certify the same in pursuance of the "Documentary Evidence Act," shall be evidence that such scale has been approved of, and that all the steps required by " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1865," or this Act, relating to the formation and approval of such scale have been taken.

65. llepeal of Acts. â The eighteenth, nineteenth, and thirty-fifth sections of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1861, and the fourteenth, twentieth, twenty-fourth, twenty-sixth,

and thirtieth sections, the first and second sub-sections of the thirty-fourth section, and the first schedule of the Salmon Fishery Act, 1865, are hereby repealed, except so far as relates to anything done or in the course of being completed under the same respectively.

The sections referred to are noticed in their proper places as repealed.

36;37 VICT. c. 71, st'iii; uui-i; s. 459

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Form of Xonnnation Paper.

Fishery District.

I the undersigned do hereby nominate

A. B. of in the county of Esquire, CD.

of in the county of fisherman for election as additional members of the board of conservators of the fishery district under the provisions of " The Salmon Fishery Act, 1873."

(Signed)

Returning officer for such election.

Dated this day of 187.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Form of Voting Paper. Fishery District.

Number of Voting Paper.

Number of Votes.

Pircctiuk to tjw Voter.

The voter must write his initials against the name of every person for whom he votes, and insert the number of votes; he intends to give to each candidate voted for, and must sign this paper in the presence of, and it must be attested by, a witness.

If the voter cannot write he must affix his mark, but such mai-k must be attested by a witness, and such witness must write the initials of the voter against the name of every person for whom the voter intends to vote, and the number of votes given to each such person.

"S-j; O g K

Names of

Persons nommated.

Residence of

Persons nominated.

Quality or calling of the Persons nominated.

I vote for the persons in the above hst against whose names my initials are placed in the proportion above mentioned.

(Signed)

Mark of

Dated the day of 187

Nfune and address of witness.

License Duties.

For each and everyâ Â Â Â d' â Weir, hang, baulk, garth, goryd, box, crib, or cruiue— 12 00 ., Draft or hang-net, not exceeding 200 yards in length measured along

tho head rope when wet— 5 0 0,, Ditto, exceeding 200 yards, for every additional 40 yards or part thereof,, Coracle net.

â Putt ,, Outtrigger or leader to putts and putchers, not exceeding 100 yards in length- 2 0 0 ,, Ditto, exceeding 100 yards, for every additional 20 yards or part thereof- ,, Cross line—. — ,, Single rod and line.

For putchers or butts, if not exceeding 50 in number.—

For every additional 50 or part thereof-

For any instrument or device not named above, such sum as may be determined by the board of conservators, with the sanction of the secretary of state.

This table of license duties is defective in not putting any license duty on fishing mill dams which have no box, crib, or cruiwe. The word " weir" from the context obviously means a V-weir or fixed engine. The result is, that when the fishing mill dam has no box, crib, or cruiwe, the occupier requires only to pay the license for a draft-net, which is 5. instead of 12., and it will be difficult to remedy this omission under the hut clause of this schedule.

31 32 VICT. c. 45.

An Act to carry into effect a Convention between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French concerning the Fisheries in the Seas adjoining the British Islands and France, and to amend the Laws relating to British Sea Fisheries.

13th July, 1868.

Be it enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Part I.â Preliminary.

1. Enactment of Act. â This Act shall be divided into parts as follows:

Part I.â Preliminary. Part II.â Sea Fishery Convention. Part III.â Oyster Fisheries. Part IV.â Legal Proceedings. Part V.â Miscellaneous.

2. Short Title. â This Act may be cited as the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868.

3. Commencement of Act. â This Act shall (except as in this Act expressly otherwise provided) come into force on such day as may be fixed by a notice in that behalf published in the London Gazette, which day is in this Act referred to as the commencement of this Act.

4. Continuance of Act as herein stated. â So much of this Act as relates to French subjects or French sea-fishing boats outside of the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and as gives powers to French sea-fishery officers, shall, on the determination of the convention set out in the first schedule to this Act, cease to apply to French subjects, boats, and officers; but, subject as aforesaid, this Act shall continue in force notwithstanding the determination of that convention.

6. Interpretation of 'Terms. â In this Actâ

The term " sea-fish " does not include salmon, as defined by any Act relating to salmon, but, save as aforesaid, includes every description both of fish and of shell fish which is found in the seas to which this Act applies; and " sea-fishing," " sea-fishermen," and other expressions referring to sea-fish shall in this Act be construed to refer only to sea-fish as before defined:

The term "sea-fishing boat" includes every vessel of whatever size, and in whatever way propelled, which is used by any person in sea-fishing, or in carrying on the business of a sea-fisherman:

The term "British islands" includes the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Isle of Man, the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark, and their dependencies; and the terms "Great Britain and Ireland" and "United Kingdom," as used in the first schedule to this Act, shall be construed to mean the "British islands" as herein defined:

The terms "exclusive fishery limits of the British islands" and "exclusive fishery limits of France" mean the limits within which the exclusive right of fishing is by article one of the first schedule to this Act reserved to British subjects and French subjects respectively:

The term "consular officer" includes consul general, consul, and vice-consul, and any person for the time being discharging the duties of consul general, consul, or vice-consul; and the term "consular agent" in the first schedule to this Act shall be construed to mean consular officer:

The term "court" includes any tribunal or magistrate exercising jurisdiction under this Act:

The term "person" includes a body corporate:

The term "the Irish fishery commissioners" means the commissioners acting in execution of the Act of the session of the fifth and sixth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter one hundred and six, intituled "An Act to regulate the Irish Fisheries," and the Acts amending the same.

Part II. â Convention and Fisheries. General Provisions.

6. Confirmation of Convention. â The convention set out in the first schedule to this Act (referred to in this Act as the convention) is hereby confirmed, and the articles thereof and the declaration thereto annexed shall be of the same force as if they were enacted in the body of this Act.

7. Power to Her Majesty by Orders in Council, to make, dr., Reynlations for Execution of Act and Maintenance of Order. â It shall be lawful for Her Majesty from time to time, by order in council, to make, alter, and revoke regulatioiis for carrying into execution this Act and the intent and object thereof, and for the maintenance of good order among sea-fishing boats, and the persons belonging thereto, and to impose penalties not exceeding ten pounds for the breach of such regulations.

8. Who are to be Sea-fisherif Officers. â The following persons shall have authority to enforce the provisions of this Act and of any order in council made thereunder; namely, every officer of or appointed by the board of trade, every commissioned officer of any of Her Majesty's ships on full pay, every British consular officer, every collector and principal officer of customs in any place in the British islands, every inspecting commander of the coast guard, every principal officer of a coast guard station, and every commander of any vessel belonging to the French government, and every person appointed by the French government to superintend the fisheries referred to in the convention; and such persons are in this Act referred to as sea-fishery officers.

9. Poicers of Sea-fishery Officers. â A sea-fishery officer, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act and of any order in council made thereunder,

may, with respect to any sea-fishing boat within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and with respect to any British or French sea-fishing boat outside of those limits, in the seas to which this Act applies, exercise the following powers: (1.) He may go on board it: (2.) He may require the owner, master, and crew, or any of them, to produce any certificates of registry, licences, official log-books, official papers, articles of agreement, muster rolls, and other documents relating to the boat or to the crew, or to any member thereof, or to any person on board the boat, which are in their respective possession or control on board the boat, and may take copies thereof or of any part thereof: (3.) He may muster the crew of the boat: (4.) He may require the master to appear and give any explanation concerning his boat and her crew, and any person on board his boat, and the said certificates of registry, licences, official log-books, official papers, articles of agreement, muster rolls, and other documents, or any of them: (5.) He may examine all sails, lights, buoys, barrel-., floats, net., and implements of fishing belonging to the boat: (6.) He may make any examination and inquiry which he deems necessary to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act, or of any order in council made thereunder, are complied with: (7.) He may, in the case of any person who has committed any of the acts constituted offences by this part of this Act, or b) any order in council made thereunder, without summons, warrant, or other process, both take the offender and the boat to which he belongs, and the crew thereof, to the nearest or most convenient port, and bring him or them before a competent court, and, subject to article twenty-seven of the convention, detain him, it, and them in the port until the alleged offence has been adjudicated upon. 10. Protection of Fishery Officers. â A sea-fishery officer shall be entitled to the same protection in respect of any action or suit brought against him for any act done or omitted to be done in the execution of his duty under this Act as is given to any officer of customs by the Customs Consolidation Act, 1858, and (with reference to the seizure or detention of an)' ship) by any Act relating to the registry of British ships.

Fishery Regulations.

11. Penalty on obstructing or disobeying Sea-fishery Officer. â If any person obstructs any sea-fishery officer in acting under the powers conferred by this Act, or refuses or neglects to comply with any requisition or direction lawfully made or given by, or to answer any question lawfully asked by, any sea-fishery officer in pursuance of this Act, such person shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act.

12. As to Violation of Article II. of Convention. â If any person belonging to a sea-fishing boat which is either British or French acts in contravention of article eleven of the first schedule to this Act, such person shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act.

13. As to Violation of Articles 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 21 of Convention. â If within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands any person, or if outside of those limits any person belonging to a sea-fishing boat which is either British or French, acts in contravention of articles twelve, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one of the first schedule to this Act, or any of them, or causes injury to any person in any one or more of the following ways, namely, by assaulting any one belonging to another sea-fishing boat, or by causing damage to another sea-fishing

boat, or to any property on board thereof or belonging thereto, such person shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act.

14. **Penalty for Offences.** â Every person who has committed an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and every person belonging to a British sea-fishing boat who has committed an offence against those regulations outside of those limits, shall be liable to a penalty of not less than eight shillings and not more than fifty pounds, or, in the discretion of the court, to imprisonment for not less than two days and not more than three months, with or without hard labour.

If the offence is one by which some injury has been caused in any of the ways before mentioned the court may order the offender to pay in addition to any penalty a reasonable sum as compensation to the person injured, which sum may be recovered in the same manner as a penalty under this Act.

15. **Offence relating to a French Boat to be sent back to France.** â Where a person belonging to a French sea-fishing boat has committed, outside of the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act, he shall, after the evidence is taken as provided by this Act, be sent back to France for trial.

Exclusive Fishery Limits.

16. **Penalties for Violation of exclusive Limits.** â If any person belonging to a French sea-fishing boat acts in contravention of articles thirty-two, thirty-three, and thirty-five of the first schedule to this Act, or any of them, the master or person for the time being in charge of such boat shall be liable for the first offence to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds; for the second or any subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

And the court may order that in default of payment of any such penalty the boat to which the offender belongs may be detained in some port of the British islands for a period not exceeding three months from the date of the sentence inflicting the penalty.

Entry of Boats and Sale of Fish.

17. **is to Suspension of Article 31 of Convention.** â Article thirty-one of the convention and the declaration annexed to the convention shall not come into force until such day as may be fixed in that behalf by a notice published in the London Gazette.

18. **Power to Commissioners of Customs to make Regulations respecting Report and Entry of Sea-fishing Boats.** â The commissioners of Her Majesty's customs may from time to time make, alter, and revoke regulations for carrying into effect article thirty-one of the convention, and respecting the report of British sea-fishing boats which have visited foreign ports, and of sea-fishing boats which are not British, and respecting the entry and landing of fish taken by sea-fishing boats,

boats "which are not British, or respecting any of such matters, and may for such purpose alter and dispense with all or any of the regulations and enactments relating to the aforesaid matters which are contained in this or any other Act, or are otherwise from time to time in force.

The regulations so made shall be deemed to be regulations within the meaning of section two hundred of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1853.

19. As to the Sale of Fish. â After the commencement of this Act all restrictions whatever in England, on the sale of sea-fish, as defined by this Act, which is not diseased, unsound, unwholesome, or unfit for the food of man, shall be abolished.

Ldghts.

20. As to Violation of Articles 13 and 14 of Convention. â Articles thirteen and fourteen of the first schedule to this Act shall, as to all sea-fishing boats within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and as to British sea-fishing boats outside of these limits, have the same force as if they were regulations respecting lights within the meaning of the Acts relating to merchant shipping, with this addition, that any sea-fishery officer shall have the same powers of enforcing such regulations as are given to any officer by such Acts, and any infringement of the regulations contained in articles thirteen and fourteen shall be deemed an offence within the meaning of the portion of this Act which gives power to sea-fishery officers.

21. Article 22 to be deemed included in Term " Wreck." â The boats and articles specified in article twenty-two of the first schedule to this Act shall be deemed to be included in the term "wreck" as used in any Act relating to merchant shipping.

Registry of Sea-fishing Boats.

22. As to Entry or Reistry of British Sea-fishing Boats. â Subject to any exemptions allowed by or in pursuance of any order in council made as hereinafter mentioned, every British sea-fishing boat shall, as required by articles four, five, six, seven, and eight of the convention, be lettered and 31 32 viot. c. 45, Â Â 22, 23. 4G9 numbered and have official papers, and shall for that purpose be entered or registered in a register for sea-fishing boats.

A British sea-fishing boat which is required to be entered or registered in pursuance of this part of this Act, but is not so entered or registered, shall not be entitled to any of the privileges or advantages of a British sea-fishing boat, but all obligations, liabilities, and penalties with reference to such boat, and the punishment of offences committed on board her, or by any persons belonging to her, and the jurisdiction of officers and courts, shall be the same as if such boat were actually so entered or registered.

If any British sea-fishing boat required to be entered or registered in pursuance of this part of this Act, and not being so entered or registered, is used as a sea-fishing boat in the seas to which this Act applies, the owner and the master of such boat shall each be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds; and any sea-fishery officer may seize and detain such boat and prevent it from going to sea and from sea-fishing until it is duly entered or registered, and may for that purpose, if it is at sea, take it back into the nearest or most convenient port in the British islands.

23. Power to Her Mdji'fiti in Council to provide for liciiiatnj of British Sea-Jishiikj Boats. â It shall be lawful for Her Majesty by order in council from time to time to do all or any of the following things; namely, ((.) To make regulations for carrying out, enforcing, and giving effect to both the entry and registry of British sea-fishing boats, and also articles four, five, six, seven, and eight of the first schedule to this Act: h.) To adopt in such regulations any existing system of registry or lettering and numbering of boats, and to provide for bringing any such system into conformity with the requirements of the convention and this Act, and with the said regulations: (c.) To define the boats or classes of boats to which such regulations or any of them are

to apply, and to provide for the exemption of any boats or classes of boats from such regulations or any of them, and from the provisions of this part of this Act with respect to entry or registry and the possession of a certificate of registry and official papers: 2 I ((.) To apply to the entry and registry respectively of sea-fishing boats so defined, and to all matters incidental thereto, such (if any) of the enactments contained in any Act relating to the registry of British ships, and with such modifications and alterations as may be found desirable: (e.) To impose penalties not exceeding twenty pounds for the breach of any regulations made by any order in council, for the breach of which a punishment cannot be provided by the application of the enactments contained in any Act relating to the registry of British ships: (.) To alter and revoke an order so made.

And every such order shall be of the same force as if it were enacted in this Act.

24. As to Ejj'ect of Registry. â In all proceedings against the owner or master of or any person belonging to any boat registered or entered in the register for sea-fishing boats for offences against the fishery regulations or regulations as to lights in this Act, and in all actions or suits for the recovery of damages for injury done by any such boat, such register, or the register under any Act relating to the registry of British ships as to boats registered therein, shall be conclusive evidence that the persons registered at any date as owners of such boat were at that date owners thereof, and that the boat is a British sea-fishing boat: Provided thatâ (1.) This provision shall not prevent any proceedings, action, or suit being taken or instituted against any person not registered who is beneficially interested in the boat: (2.) This provision shall not afi"ect the rights of the owners among themselves, or the rights of any registered owner against any person not registered who is beneficially interested in the boat: (3.) Save as aforesaid, entry or registry in the register for sea-fishing boats shall not confer, take away, or afi"ect any title to or interest in any sea-fishing boat.

25. Sectum 207 of 16 d 17 Vict, c 107, not to apply to certain Boats. â The two hundred and seventh section of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1853, shall not apply to any British sea-fishing boat entered or registered in pursuance of this part of this Act.

31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â 26â 28. 471 26. Sea-fishin(j Boats within exclusive Limits to have Official Papers. â Subject to any exemptions allowed by or in pursuance of such order in council, the master of every sea-fishing boat within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and of every 13ritish sea-fishing boat outside of those limits, shall have on board his boat, if it is a British sea-fishing boat required by this part of this Act to be entered or registered, the certificate of registry or official papers issued to the boat in pursuance of any Act relating to the registry of British ships, or of this part of this Act, and if it is not British, then official papers evidencing the nationality of such boat.

The master of any such boat who acts in contravention of this section, unless there is a reasonable cause for not having such certificate or official papers (proof whereof shall lie on him), shall be liable, together with his boat and crew, to be taken by any sea-fishery officer, without warrant, summons, or other process, into the nearest or most convenient port, and there to be ordered by the court, on any proceeding in a summary manner, to pay a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and if such penalty

is not paid, and the boat is not British, such boat may be detained in port for a period not exceeding three months from the date of the sentence.

Part III.â Oyster Fisheries.

Note.â As to this part see 8 9 Vict. c. 108; 13 14 Vict. c. 88; 29 30 Vict. cc. 88, 97; 32 33 Vict. c. 92, as to Irish oyster fisheries.

Preliminary.

27. Part III. not to apply to Places herein stated. â This part of this Act shall not interfere with the jurisdiction or powers now possessed by the Irish fishery commissioners with regard to oyster fisheries, and shall not apply to Ireland, the Isle of Man, or the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, or S; u"k, or their dependencies, or to the seas adjoining the same, within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, or to any seas outside of those exclusive fishery limits.

28. Interpretation of certain Terms. â In this part of this Act the words "oysters" and "mussels" respectively include the brood, ware, half-ware, spat, and spawn of oysters and mussels respectively.

In this part of the Act the expression " oyster and mussel fishery" includes a fishery for either oysters or mussels separately, and the term "oyster or mussel fishery" includes a fishery for both oysters and mussels; and the provisions of this part of this Act shall be construed to apply in the case of any fishery to oysters and oyster ground and beds alone, or to mussels and mussel ground and beds alone, or to both oysters and mussels and oyster and mussel ground and beds, according as the right of fishery is for oysters alone, or for mussels alone, or for both oysters and mussels.

Order for Fishery.

29. Power to Board of Trade on Memorial to make Order fur Oyster Fishery. â An order for the establishment or improvement, and for the maintenance and regulation, of an oyster and mussel fishery on the shore and bed of the sea, or of an estuary or tidal river, above or below, or partly above and partly below, low-water mark (which shore and bed are in this part of this Act referred to as the sea shore), and including, if desirable, provisions for the constitution of a board or body corporate for the purpose of such order, may be made under this part of this Act, on an application by a memorial in that behalf presented to the board of trade by any persons desirous of obtaining such an order (which persons are in this part of this Act referred to as the promoters).

30. Publication of Draft Order and Notice to Owners of adjoiinity Lands, &c. â If on consideration of the memorial the board of trade think fit to proceed in the case, the promoters shall cause printed copies of the draft of the order as proposed by them (with such modifications, if any, as the board of trade require) to be published and circulated in such manner as the board of trade think sufficient and proper for giving information to all parties interested, and shall give notice of the application, in such manner as the board of trade direct or approve, to the owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessees, and occupiers (if any) of the portion of the sea shore to which the proposed order relates, and of the lands adjoining thereto.

31. Objections and Representations respecting Order. â During one month after the first publication of the draft 31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â Â 31â 34. 473 order the board of trade shall receive any objections or representations made to them in writing respecting the proposed order.

32. Inquiry into proposed Order by Public Sittinys. â The board of trade shall, as soon as conveniently may be after the expiration of the said month, appoint some fit person to act as inspector respecting the proposed order.

The inspector shall proceed to make an inquiry concerning the subject-matter of the proposed order, and for that purpose to hold a sitting or sittings in some convenient place in the neighbourhood of the portion of the sea shore to which the proposed order relates, and thereat to take and receive any evidence and information offered, and hear and inquire into any objections or representations made respecting the proposed order, with power from time to time to adjourn any sitting; and the inspector may, for the purpose of such inquiry, take evidence, and by summons under his hand require the attendance of any person, and examine him and any person who attends before him, on oath or otherwise, as he thinks expedient, and may administer an oath or take any affida 'it or declaration for the purpose of the inquu-y; and any person so summoned who, after tender to him of his reasonable expenses, refuses or neglects to obey such summons, and any person who refuses or neglects to answer any question which the inspector is authorized to ask, shall be Hable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for each otience; and any person who wilfully gives false evidence in any examination on oath in any such inquiry, or in an affidavit or declaration to be used in any Buch inquiry, shall be deemed guilty of perjury.

Notice shall be published in such manner as the board of trade direct of every such sitting (except an adjourned sitting) fourteen days at least before the laolding thereof.

33. Report of Inspector as to proposed Order. â The inspector shall make a report in writing to the board of trade setting forth the result of the inquu-y, and stating whether in his opinion the proposed order should be approved, with or without alteration, and if with any, then with what alteration, and his reasons for the same, and the objections and representations, if any, made on the inquiry, and his opinion thereon.

veniently may be after the expiration of the said month, or after the receipt by the board of trade of the report of the inspector, they shall proceed to consider the objections or representations that have been made respecting the proposed order and also the report of the inspector, and thereupon they shall either refuse the application or settle and make an order in such form and containing such provisions as they think expedient.

35. Publication of Order. â Where the board of trade make an order, the promoters shall cause it to be published and circulated in such manner as the board of trade think suffs-cient for giving information to all parties interested, and shall give notice of it, in such manner as the board of trade direct or approve, to the owners or reputed owners, lessees or reputed lessees, and occupiers (if any) of the portion of the sea shore to which the order relates, and of the lands adjoining thereto.

86. Ex2)enses connected nith Order. â All expenses incurred by the board of trade in relation to any memorial, or to any order consequent thereon, shall be defrayed by the promoters, and the board of trade shall, if they think fit, on or at any time after the presentation of the memorial, require the promoters to pay to the board of trade such sum as the board of trade think requisite for or on account of those expenses, or to give security to the satisfaction of the board of trade for the payment of those expenses on demand.

37. Confirmation of Order by Act of Parliament. â An. order of the board of trade under this part of this Act shall not of itself have any operation, but the same shall have full operation when and as confirmed by Act of parliament, with such modifications, if any, as to parliament seem fit.

38. Power to refer Order to a Select Committee if opposed. â If in the progress through parliament of a bill confirming an order a petition is presented to either house of parliament against the order, the bill, as far as it relates to the order petitioned against, may be referred to a select committee, and the petitioner shall be allowed to appear and oppose as in case of a private bill.

39. As to Amendment of Order by Board of Trade. â The board of trade may from time to time make an order for amending an order that has been confirmed by Act of parliament, and all the provisions of this part of this Act relative to an 31 32 VICT. c. 45, â 39, 40. 475 original order shall apply also to an amending order, mutatis 7Hh(t)(lis).

40. Effect of Grant of Several Oyster Fishery. â Where an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act confers a right of several oyster and mussel fishery, the persons obtaining the order, in this Act referred to as the grantees, shall, by virtue of the order and of this part of this Act, but subject to any restrictions and exceptions contained in the order, have, within the limits of the fishery, the exclusive right of depositing, propagating, dredging, and fishing for, and taking oysters and mussels, and in the exercise of that right may, within the limits of the fishery, proceed as follows, namely, make and maintain oyster and mussel beds or either of them, and at any season collect oysters and mussels, and remove the same from place to place, and deposit the same as and where they think fit, and do all other things which they think proper for obtaining, storing, and disposing of the produce of then- fishery.

This Act enables the Crown to grant, subject to some conditions, a several oyster and mussel fishery in a part of the sea shore, both above and below low-water mark, namely, so far as the fishery extends above low-water mark, taking away from the public fisherman the common law right which he had formerly enjoyed of dredging over such part of the sea. But anjile precautions are taken against any abuse or any unfair interference with public industry by hearing all possible objections before the inspector who reports the circumstances to the board of trade. Before this statute no individual could appropriate part of the sea to himself, nor was there any way of acquiring an oyster fishery in public waters, though there were instances of large oyster fisheries which had been created by grant of the Crown or immemorial usage from which such grant could be presumed. These private oyster fisheries remain as before, and the law as to them is unaffected, being exempted by â 48 from interference.

Where a corporation had an oyster fishery and used to grant licenses to dredgers, it was held that a statute requiring them to grant licenses to such as should apply, on the usual terms, did not render the corporation liable to an action for refusing such license: *Mills v. Mayor of Colchester*, 17 C. B. (n. s.) G3(5; L. R. 2 C. P. 476; 36 L. J. C. P. 210; 16 L. T. (n. s.) 626; 37 L. J. C. P. 278.

A corporation having an oyster fishery claimed to levy tolls on ships grounding within the fishery, but it was held that the safety of navigation was paramount, and though such a toll had been levied for seventy years, yet the claim could not be

supported without proof of a consideration: *Gann v. Free Fishers of Tjliitstahle*, 12 L. T. (n. s.) 150.

But where it was shown that the owners of the fishery had maintained buoys and beacons for the benefit of the navigation, this was deemed a sufficient consideration within the rule last mentioned: *Free Fishers of Wliitstahle v. Foreman*, 36 L. J. C. P. 273; 16 L. T. (n. s.) 747. As to bye-laws made by corporations as owners of oyster fisheries, see *Adley v. Reeves*, 2 M. S. 53; *Hills V. Bunt*, 15 C. B. 1.

Where part of the sea shore between high and low-water mark belongs to an individual, as it may do under some ancient grant of the Crown, there is nothing to hinder him from converting this part of the shore into an oyster fishery, and managing it in any way he thinks fit, subject to the public right of navigation.

In an indictment for stealing oysters under 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 26, ante, p. 90, it is sufficient for the prosecutor to prove ownership of the fishery by witnesses who speak as to the possession for a long period, as forty-five years: *R. v. Downing*, 11 Cox C. C. 580; 23 L. T. (n. s.) 398.

Close Time for Oysters. â Under the former convention with France and stat. 6 7 Vict. c. 79, as stated ante, p. 94, a close time for oysters was prescribed, but that Act and also the Act 18 19 Vict. c. 101 are repealed by this Act, and the only restriction by the present Act is that mentioned in Art. 11 of the existing convention, which applies to the sea outside of the fishery limits between the North Foreland and the Land's End on the one side, and between Dunkirk and Ushant on the other side; and the prohibited time is from 16th June to 31st August, inclusive. In all other parts of the English and Scotch seas and coast there is no restriction imposed. See Art. 3; also Â 70. As to the Irish coast, the oyster fisheries are regulated by Irish statutes.

41. Effect of Grant of Power of regulating Fishery. â Where an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act, without conferring a right of several oyster and mussel fishery, confers a right of regulating an oyster and mussel fishery, and imposes restrictions on or makes regulations respecting the dredging and fishing for and taking oysters and mussels, or either of them, within the limits of the regulated fishery, or imposes tolls or royalties upon persons dredging, fishing for, and taking oysters and mussels, or either of them, within the limits of such fishery, the persons obtaining the order, in this Act included in the term the grantees, shall, by virtue of the order and of this part of this Act, but subject to any restrictions and exceptions contained in the order, have power to do all or any of the following things; namely, (k.) To carry into effect and enforce such restrictions and regulations: (h.) To levy such tolls or royalties: (c.) To provide for depositing and propagating oysters and mussels within the limits of the fishery, and for improving and cultivating the fishery.

All such restrictions, regulations, tolls, and royalties shall be imposed on and apply to all persons equally, and shall be for the benefit of the fishery only, and the tolls and royalties shall be applied in the improvement and cultivation of the fishery.

Any person who dredges or fishes for or takes any oysters or mussels in contravention of any such restriction or regulation, or without paying any such toll or royalty, shall be liable on summary conviction to pay a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and to forfeit all oysters and mussels so taken, or a sum equal to the value thereof

if they have been sold, which forfeiture may be enforced in the same manner as a penalty.

The Court may direct such forfeiture to be delivered or paid to the grantees to be applied by them for the improvement and cultivation of the fishery.

The order imder this section is distinguished from that under Å 40 by being merely a ri'ht of regulating what may be called a natural oyster bed. Under the 40(tli section, when a grant is made, the grantees, though not made the oia Tiers of the sou, yet practically have all the rights of such oia Tiers, so far as using the soil for oysters and uissels. The grantees may form and plant beds, and sow and reap their crops. Under the 41st section the grantees are i)Ut in possession of a natural bed of oysters or mussels where they seldom require to lay down oysters for spawning, and trust rather tu nature for keejng up the stock, but merely regulate the dredging so a. s to prevent the public from overdredging, and so destroying the stock, tvs has been done in so many of the great natural oyster beds on the coast as well as in deep waters. For this purpose the grantees are authorized to lovj tolls or royalties on those who dredge, but there is no total exclusion of the right of the public, except from certain portions of the fishery. They may go within the limits and dredge provided they pay the toll, which is a contribution towards the expense of management. The funl thus created enables the grantees to occasionally deposit oysters and mussels for spa ling purposes, and thereby prevent the beds from being worked out.

42. Proof of marking of Limits. â Whenever it is necessary in any legal proceeding to prove that, in pursuance of any Act of parliament or of an order under this part of this Act, the limits of any oyster and mussel fishery have been duly buoyed or otherwise marked, or notices of such limits have been duly published, posted, or distributed, or that notice of the provisions of the order or of such Act relating to the oyster and mussel fishery has been duly published, a certificate purporting to be under the hand of one of the secretaries or assistant secretaries of the board of trade, certifying that the board of trade are satisfied that the said limits were so buoyed or marked, or that the said notices were duly published, posted, or distributed, shall be received as evidence that the same have been so buoyed or marked, or that the said notices have been so published, posted, or distributed.

43. Fishery to be within County for Pmyoses of Jurisdiction. â The portion of the sea shore to which an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act relates (as far as it is not by law within the body of any county) shall for all purposes of jurisdiction be deemed to be within the body of the adjoining county, or to be within the body of each of the adjoining counties, if more than one.

44. Limitation on Term of Several Fishery. â The board of trade shall not in any case make an order conferring a right of several oyster and mussel fishery, or a right of regulating an oyster and mussel fishery, for a longer period at once than sixty years.

45. Condition for Cesser of Several Fishery, if no adequate Benefit. â A right of several oyster or mussel fishery conferred by an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act, or by " The Roach River Oyster Fishery Act, 1866," and a right of regulating an oyster and mussel fishery, shall, notwithstanding anything in the order or in the said Act, be determinable by a certificate of the board of trade (which certificate they are hereby empowered to make) certifying to the effect that the board of trade

are not satisfied that the grantees under the order, or the company under the said Act (as the case may be), are properly cultivating the oyster or mussel ground within the limits of such fishery, or are 31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â Â 45â 47. 479 properly carrying into effect and enforcing the restrictions and regulations, and levying the tolls or royalties; and on any such certificate being made, the right of several fishery or right of regulating the fishery (as the case may be) by such order or the said Act conferred shall, by virtue of this part of this Act and of the certificate, be absolutely determined, and all provisions of this part of this Act or of the said Act shall cease to operate in relation to such fishery as a several oyster and mussel fishery or as a regulated fishery.

For the purposes of this provision the board of trade may from time to time, with respect to any such fishery, make such inquiries and examination by an inspector or otherwise, and require from the grantees or company such information, as the board of trade think necessary or proper, and the grantees or company shall afford all facilities for such inquiries and examination, and give such information, accordingly.

46. Consistently with respect to rights of the Crown or Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall. Where any portion of the sea shore proposed to be comprised in an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act belongs to Her Majesty, Her heirs or successors, in right of the Crown, but is not under the management of the board of trade, or forms part of the possessions of the Duchy of Lancaster or of the Duchy of Cornwall, the board of trade shall not make the order without such consent as hereinafter mentioned; namely.

In the first-mentioned case of the commissioners of Her Majesty's woods, forests, and land revenues, or one of them:

In the secondly-mentioned case of the chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in writing under his hand attested by the clerk of the council of the duchy:

In the thirdly-mentioned case of the Duke of Cornwall, or other the persons for the time being empowered to dispose for any purpose of lands of the Duchy of Cornwall.

47. Consistently with (as to) Landowners, (c. Where any portion of the sea shore comprised in an order of the board of trade under this part of this Act does not belong to Her Majesty, Her heirs or successors, in right of the Crown, or form part of the possessions of the Duchy of Lancaster or of the Duchy of Cornwall, the board of trade shall incorporate in the order

"The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," or "The Lands Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act, 1845," as the case requires, and shall apply the provisions thereof respectively to the purchase or taking of such portion of the sea shore.

As the board of trade have power to include within the limits of a new oyster and mussel fishery grant part of the shore which may belong to an individual under an ancient grant of the Crown, it was necessary to provide compensation to the owner for taking away such portion of his property.

48. Order of Board of Trade not to abridge Right of Several Fishery, &c. No order made by the board of trade under this part of this Act shall take away or abridge any right of several fishery, or any right on, to, or over any portion of the sea shore, which right is enjoyed by any person under any local or special Act of parliament, or any royal charter, letters patent, prescription, or immemorial usage, without the consent of such person.

The grant of an oyster and mussel fishery is not to interfere with any several fishery which a private owner may have, and often in point of fact has, in part of the sea or a tidal river, for all kinds of floating fish, such as salmon, miolet, flounders, whiting, &c. The owners of the floating fish are, by Â 53, however, to use their nets so as not to disturb or injure the oysters or mussels. Such several fishery for floating fish is not to be abridged or taken away unless with the owners' consent, but in many cases the best situations for oysters are not of much value for floating fish.

49. Copies of Orders and Acts j)nted by Queen's Printer to be kept for Sale. â The persons obtaining an order under this part of this Act shall at all times keep at some convenient place, in the neighbourhood of the portion of the sea shore to which the order relates, copies of the order with the Act confirming it, and of this part of this Act, printed respectively by some of Her Majesty's printers, and shall sell such copies to all persons desiring to buy them at a price not exceeding sixpence for one copy of this part of this Act and of the order and of the Act confirming it together.

If any such persons fail to comply with this provision, they shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not 31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â 49â 51. 481 exceeding five pounds, and to a further penalty not exceeding one pound for every day during which such failure continue after the day on which the first penalty is incurred.

50. Aintiâ d licport of Jioard of Trade. â There shall be annually laid before both houses of parliament a report of the board of trade respecting the applications to and proceedings of the board of trade under this part of this Act during each year.

Since the practice coninenced in 1866 of the board of trade granting oyster and mussel fisheries to individuals and companies, grants have been made, up to 1872, as follows:â (1) To the Fish and Oyster Breeding Company (Limited), in river Blackwater, Essex; (2), to Messrs. Warner and Scovell, in river Hamblo, Southampton; (3), to Mr. James Hunter, in Holy Loch, Frith of Clyde; (4), to Earl of Moray, in Donibristle, Frith of Forth; (5), to the Oyster Merchants Company (Limited), at Emsworth; (G), to the South of England Oyster Company, at Langston; (7), to the Corporation of Edinburgh, in Frith of Fortli; (8), to Mr. John Anderson, in Frith of Forth; (9), to Mr. John Anderson, also in Frith of Forth; (10), to Earl of Morton, a mussel fishery in Frith of Forth; (11), to Earl of Morton, an oyster and mussel fishery m Frith of Forth; (12), to the Corporation of Boston, in Boston Dee is; (13), to the Ems-worth Dredgermen's Co-ojierative Society (Limited), in Emsworth Chamiel; (14), to the Corporation of King's Lynn, at King's Lvtiu; (15), to Mr. John Robertson, at Gresheruish, Isle of Skye; (16), to Mr. Jonathan Russell, at Salcombe.

Protection of Oyster Beds.

51. Property in Oysters, ccc, iithin Several Fishery. â All oysters and mussels being in or on an oyster or mussel bed â within the limits of a several oyster and mussel fishery granted by an order under this part of this Act, and all oysters being in or on any private oyster bed which is OAvned by any person independently of this Act, and is sufficiently marked out or sufficiently known as such, shall be the absolute property of the grantees or of such owner, as the case may be, and in all courts of law and equity and elsewhere, and for all purposes, civil, criminal, or other, shall be deemed to be in the actual possession of the grantees and such owner respectively.

52. Propertii in Oysters, dr., removed from Several Fishery. â All oysters and mussels removed by any person from an oyster or mussel bed within the limits of any such several fishery, and all oysters removed by any person from any such private oyster bed, and not either sold in market overt or disposed of by or under the authority of the grantees or owner (as the case may be), shall be the absolute property of the grantees and owner respectively, and in all courts of law and equity and elsewhere, and for all purposes, civil, criminal, or other, the absolute right to the possession thereof shall be deemed to be in the grantees and owner respectively.

By this and the previous section, the oysters and mussels while on the Ijeds being the absolute j roproperty of the grantees or o vner, and continuing such until sold in market overt, the taker will be treated as giiilty of larceny, and to this extent the remedy is more general than that in the Larceny Act, 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 26, ante, p. 90, which merely treats the stealing as punishable " as in case of larceny." But the punishment may be under either statute. See Â 65.

If the offence is dredging in order to take the oysters, though none be taken, the punishment will be as for an attempt to steal, or under 24 25 Vict. c. 96, Â 26.

53. Protection of Several Fishery. â It shall not be lawful for any person other than the grantees, their agents, servants, and workmen, within the limits of any such several fishery, or in any part of the space within the same described in this behalf in the order, or other than the owner of any such private oyster bed, his agents, servants, and workmen, within the limits of such bed, knowingly to do any of the following things:

To use any implement of fishing, except a line and hook or a net adapted solely for catching floating fish, and so used as not to disturb or injiire in any manner any oyster or mussel bed, or oysters or mussels, or the oyster or mussel fishery:

To dredge for any ballast or other substance except under a lawful authority for improving the navigation:

To deposit any ballast, rubbish, or other substance:

To place any implement, apparatus, or thing prejudicial or likely to be prejudicial to any oyster or mussel 31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â Â 53â 55. 483 bed, or oysters or mussels, or to the oyster or mussel fishery, except for a hiwful purpose of navi atiou or anchorage: To disturb or injure in any manner, except as last aforesaid, any oyster or mussel bed, or oysters or mussels, or the oyster or mussel fishery: And if any person does any act in contravention of this section he shall be liable to the following penalty, namely, to a penalty not exceeding two pounds for the first offence, and not exceeding five pounds for the second offence, and not exceeding ten pounds for the third and every subsequent offence; and every such person shall also be liable to make full compensation to the grantees and owner respectively for all damage sustained by them or him by reason of his unlawful act, and in default of payment the same may be recovered from him by the grantees and owner respectively by proceedings in any court of competent jurisdiction (but not in a summary manner), whether he has been prosecuted for or convicted of an offence against this section or not.

These offences are new, and may be punished in a summary way by justices of the peace, and the grantees or owner may in addition sue in a county court or superior

court for the amount of damage sustained. But it is a condition of the remedy that the limits of the fishery should be sufficiently marked out.

54. Limits of Fishery to be Irpt marked out. â Provided always, that nothing in the last foregoing section shall make it unlawful for any person to do any of the things therein mentioned,â (ii.) In the case of a fishery granted by an order under this part of this Act, if at the time of his doing the same the limits of the several fishery or of the space within the same described in that behalf in the order are not sufficiently marked out in manner prescribed by or under the order, or if notice of those limits has not been given to him in manner so prescribed: ('). In the case of a private oyster bed owned by any person independently of this Act, if it is not sufficiently marked out and known as such.

55. Cojiti; iuoi(s Fisheries. â When two or more oyster or mussel beds or fisheries belonging to different proprietors are contiguous to each other, and any proceeding by indictment or otherwise is taken against any person for stealing oysters or mussels from any bed formed under an order made in pursuance of this part of this Act, or for stealing oysters from any bed formed independently of this Act, it shall be sufficient, in alleging and proving the property and lawful possession of the oysters or mussels stolen, and the place from which they were stolen, to allege and prove that they were the property of and in the lawful possession of one or other of such proprietors, and were stolen from one or other of such contiguous beds or fisheries.

56. Application of Act to Orders, Sc, under 29 d- 80 Vict. c. 85.â This part of this Act shall, as to all orders made under the Oyster and Mussel Fisheries Act, 1866, which have been or may be confirmed in this session of parliament, apply in the same manner as if they had been made and confirmed in pursuance of this part of this Act.

All orders made under the Oyster and Mussel Fisheries Act, 1866, before the commencement of this Act, and not so confirmed, and all proceedings taken before the commencement of this Act with a view to obtain any such orders, shall have effect and be proceeded with as if they had been respectively made and taken under this part of this Act.

Pakt IV.â Legal Proceedings.

57. Mode of recovering Penalties. â All penalties, offences, and proceedings under this Act, or under any order in council made thereunder (except any felony, and except as otherwise provided), may be recovered, prosecuted, and taken in a summary manner, andâ

In England, before any justice, and

In Scotland, before any court or judge acting under the Summary Procedure Act, 1864, and any Act amending the same, in the manner directed by those Acts, and In the Isle of Man, and the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Aldemey, and Sark respectively, before any court, governor, deputy governor, deemster, jurat, or other magistrate, in the manner in which the like penalties, offences, and proceedings are by law recovered, prosecuted, and taken, or as near thereto as cu'cumstances admit.

68. Appeal. â If any person feels aggrieved by any conviction under this Act, or by any determination or adjudication of the court with respect to any compensation under this Act, where the sum adjudged to be paid exceeds five pounds, or the period

of imprisonment adjudged exceeds one month, he may appeal therefrom in manner following; (that is to say,)

In England, in manner directed by law, subject, in the city of London and the metropolitan police district, to the enactments in that behalf made, and subject elsewhere to the conditions and regulations following: 1. The appeal shall be made to some court of general or quarter sessions for the county or place in which the court whose decision is complained of has jurisdiction, holden not less than fifteen days and not more than four months after the decision of the court from which the appeal is made: 2. The appellant shall within three days after the said decision give notice in writing to the other party of his intention to appeal, and the ground of such appeal.

3. Immediately after such notice the appellant shall before a justice of the peace enter into recognizances with two sufficient sureties conditioned personally to try such appeal, and to abide the judgment of the court thereon, and to pay such costs as may be awarded by the court: 4. The court may adjourn the appeal, and upon the hearing thereof they may reverse, confirm, or modify the decision of the justice or justices, with or without costs to be paid by either party: In Ireland, in manner directed by the petty sessions, Ireland, Act, 1851, and any Act amending the same:

In Scotland, the Isle of Man, and the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark, in manner in which appeals from the like convictions and determinations and adjudications are made.

59. *Pvoecrdinrfrwhcrr* Offender hrjonfii-to a French Boat. â Where a person belonging to a French sea-fishing boat is charged with having committed outside of the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act, the court shall have jurisdiction to hear and shall hear the case in the same manner as if such person were liable to a penalty under this Act, subject to the following provisions: (1.) The statement on oath of each witness shall be put into writing, and such writing, in this Act referred to as the deposition, shall (in the presence of the accused, unless he has left the port,) be read over to and signed by the witness and by the person or one of the persons who constitute the court: (2.) After the examination of all the witnesses has been completed the court shall inquire whether the accused has any answer to make to the accusation, and shall warn him that what he says may be given in evidence against him: (3.) Any statement made by the accused shall be put into writing, and signed by the person or persons constituting the court, and added to the depositions: (4.) If the court is of opinion that the evidence is not sufficient to put the accused upon his trial, or to raise a strong or probable presumption of his guilt, the court shall order him to be discharged. If the court is of the contrary opinion, the court shall make an order directing him to be sent back to France for trial, and directing the depositions to be sent to the collector of customs of the port for transmission to the British consular officer of the port to which the accused belongs: (5.) All proceedings under this section shall, if possible, be completed before the expiration of three clear days after the arrival of the offender at the port in the British islands. GO. Jurisdiction of Courts. â For the purpose of giving jurisdiction to courts under this Act the following provisions shall have effect: (1.) A sea-fishing boat shall be deemed to be a ship within the meaning of any Act relating to offences committed on board a ship: (2.) The same court shall have power to exercise the jurisdiction

conferred by this Act with respect to an offence committed by a foreign subject as would have jurisdiction to try such offence if it had been committed by a British subject.

61. *Evidence taken in France.* If any vessel belonging to a British sea-fishing boat is taken into a French port in pursuance of the convention, the depositions, minutes, and other documents, authenticated in manner provided by article twenty eight of the convention, shall be receivable in evidence without further proof of their authenticity, and a certificate under the seal of a French consular officer in the British islands that such documents have been so authenticated shall be conclusive evidence of the fact.

If the depositions were taken in the presence of and so as to be understood by the accused, or if the accused had an opportunity of cross-examining the deponents, or if the minutes are minutes of a judicial proceeding at which the British consular officer of the port was present, and in which the matter in dispute was fairly investigated, and the accused had an opportunity of making his defence, the British consular officer shall certify such fact or facts under his hand and seal, and until the contrary is proved such certificate shall be sufficient evidence of the matters therein stated, and such seal, signature, and certificate shall be deemed to be a seal, signature, and document within the meaning of sections three and five of the Act of the session of the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter forty-two, intituled "An Act to enable Diplomatic and Consular Agents abroad to administer Oaths and do Notarial Acts."

62. *Service of summons if made personally or on board.* Service of any summons or other matter in any legal proceeding under this Act shall be good service if made personally on the person to be served, or at his last place of abode, or if made by leaving such summons for him on board any sea-fishing boat to which he may belong, with the person being or appearing to be in command or charge of such boat.

63. *Masters of Boats liable to Penalties imposed.* Where any offence against the fishery regulations of the Act has been committed by some person belonging to any sea-fishing boat, the master or person for the time being in charge of such boat shall in every case be liable to pay any penalty imposed or compensation awarded in respect of such offence, unless the person who actually committed such offence is proved guilty to the satisfaction of the court.

Any penalty under this Act, except a penalty for the nonpayment of which detention in a port is specially provided as the remedy, may be recovered in the ordinary way, or, if the court think fit so to order, by distress or poinding and sale of the sea-fishing boat to which the offender belongs, and her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and any property on board thereof or belonging thereto, or any part thereof,

64. *Application of Penalties.* The court imposing any penalty or enforcing any forfeiture under this Act may, if it think fit, direct the whole or any part thereof to be applied in or towards payment of the expenses of the proceedings; and, subject to such direction, and to any direction given under any express provision in this Act, all penalties and forfeitures recovered under this Act shall be paid into the receipt of Her Majesty's exchequer in such manner as the commissioners of the treasury may direct, and shall be carried to the consolidated fund.

65. S((rin(of Uights as herein stated. â Nothing in this Act shall prevent any person being liable under any other Act or otherwise to any indictment, proceeding, punishment, or penalty, other than is provided for any offence by this Act, so that no person be punished twice for the same offence. â

Nothing in this Act, or in any order in council made thereunder, nor any proceedings under such Act or order with respect to any matter, shall alter the liability of any person in any action or suit with reference to the same matter, so that no person shall be required to pay compensation twice in respect of the same injury.

Paet V.â Miscellaneous.

66. Confirmation of Treaties for exempting from Dues Foreign Sea-fishing Boats entering British Ports from Stress of Weather. â Whereas by a convention concluded between the United Kingdom and France on the twenty-sixth day of January one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six it was, amongst other matters, agreed that sea-fishing boats of either country, when forced by stress of weather to seek 31 32 VICT. c. 45, Â Â GG, G7. 489 shelter iu the ports or on the coasts of the other country, should on certain conditions be exempted from all dues to "which they would otherwise be liable, and doubts have arisen whether that part of the said convention has ever been confirmed by the authority of parliimcnt, and it is expedient to remove such doubts, and to enable Her Majesty to provide for the due execution of the said convention and of any other like convention or treaty which may be made by Her Majesty: Be it enacted, that where any such convention or treaty as mentioned in this section has been or may hereafter be concluded with any foreign country, Her Majesty may by order in council direct that every sea-fishing boat belonging to such foreign country, when forced by stress of weather to seek shelter in any port or place in the British islands, shall, if it does not discharge or receive on board any cargo, and complies with the other conditions, if any, specified in such order, be exempt from all dues, tolls, rates, taxes, duties, imposts, and other charges to which it would otherwise be liable in such port or place, and every such boat shall be exempt accordingly.

67. Heriuldtions for Oyster Fiajuries ofj' the Irish Const. â The Irish fishery commissioners may from time to time lay before Her Majesty in council bye-laws for the purpose of restricting or regulating the dredging for oysters on any oyster beds or banks situate within the distance of twenty miles measured from a straight line drawn from the eastern point of Lambay Island, to Carnsore Point on the coast of Ireland, outside of the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and all such bye-laws shall apply equally to all boats and persons on whom they may be binding.

It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by order in council to do all or any of the following things; namely, (rt.) To direct that such bye-laws shall be observed: (i.) To impose penalties not exceeding twenty pounds for the breach of such bye-laws: (e.) To apply to the breach of such bye-laws such (if any) of the enactments in force respecting the breach of the regulations respecting Irish oyster fisheries within the exclusive limits of the British islands, and with such modifications and alterations as may be found desirable: (1.) To revoke or alter any order so made.

Provided that the length of close time prescribed by any Kuch order shall not be shorter than that prescribed for the time being by the Irish- fishery commissioners in respect of beds or banks within the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands.

Every such order shall be binding on all British sea-fishing boats, and on any other sea-fishing boats in that behalf specified in the order, and on the crews of such boats.

68. Befulation as to Seine-fisliiny in Cornwall. â On the coast of Cornwall, except so much of the north coast as lies to the east of Trevoise Head, no person between the twenty-fifth of July and twenty-fifth of November in any yearâ a.) shall, from sunrise to sunset, within the distance of two miles from the coast, measured from low-water mark (whether in bays or not), use a di'ift-net or trawl-net, or h.) shall, within half a mile of any sea-fishing boat stationed for seine-fishing, anchor any sea-fishing or other boat (not being a boat engaged in seine-fishing), or lay, set, or use any net, boulder, or implement of sea-fishing) except for the purpose of seine-fishing): Any person who acts in contravention of this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, which may be recovered in the same manner as a penalty for an offence against the fishery regulations of this Act.

69. As to Pnhlication and Evidence of Orders in Council. â With respect to any orders in council made in pursuance of this Act, the following provisions shall have effect: (1.) They shall be published in the London Gazette, or otherwise published in such manner as the board of trade may direct for such sufficient time before they come into force as to prevent inconvenience: (2.) They may be proved in any legal proceeding by the production of a copy of the gazette containing the said advertisement, or of a copy of the orders or regulations purporting to be printed by the printer to Her Majesty.

70. Applirntiov of Art. â The enactments in this Act which arc restricted in terms to the seas outside the exclud- sivo fishery limitb of the British islands or to any particular part of the British islands and the seas adjoining the same shall apply only to those seas and such part, but, save as aforesaid, this Act shall apply to the seas adjoining the coasts of France specified in article three of the first schedule to this Act outside of the exclusive fishery limits of France, and to the whole of the British islands as defined by this Act, and to the seas surrounding the same, whether within or without the exclusive fishery limits of the British islands, and the royal courts of Guernsey and Jersey shall register this Act in their respective courts.

Provided that nothing in this Act relating to oyster or mussel fisheries, or to oysters or mussels, shall in any way whatever alter, interfere Avith, or atlect the jurisdiction which the Irish fishery commissioners would have power to exercise over the seas surrounding Ireland and over the oyster fisheries and oyster beds in those seas if this Act had not passed.

71. Ilcpeal of Acts as in Second Schedule. â The enactments described in the second schedule to this Act are hereby repealed:

Provided thatâ 1st. This repeal shall not affect the validity or invalidity of anything already done or sufi'ered, or any right or title conferred by or in pursuance of any enactment hereby repealed, or already acquired or accrued, or any remedy or proceeding in respect thereof, or any proof of any past act or thing, or any offence committed before the commencement of this Act, or any penalty or proceeding in respect thereof: 2nd. This repeal shall not revive or restore any jurisdiction, toll, imposition, office, duty, bounty, franchise, liberty, custom, privilege, restiiction, exemption, usage, or practice not now existing or in force.

SCHEDULES referred to in the foregoing Acts.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Convention between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, relative to Fisheries in the Seas between Great Britain and France.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the Emperor of the French, having charged a mixed commission with preparing a revision of the convention of the 2nd of August 1839, and of the regulation of June 23, 1843, relative to the fisheries in the seas situated between Great Britain and France; and the members of that commission having agreed upon certain arrangements which experience has shown to be useful, and which appear to them such as will advantageously modify and complete the former arrangements in the common interest of the fisheries of the two countries; their said Majesties have judged it expedient that the arrangements proposed by the said commission should be sanctioned by a new convention, and have for that purpose named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say,

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Richard Bickerton Pemell, Lord Lyons, a peer of the United Kingdom, a member of Her Britannic Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the Emperor of the French;

And His Majesty the Emperor of the French, Leonel, Marquis de Moustier, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour, c. c. c. His Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, full 31 32 VICT. c. 45, SCHEDULES. 493 powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

Art. 1. British fishermen shall enjoy the exclusive right of fishery within the distance of three miles from low-water mark, along the whole extent of the coasts of the British islands; and French fishermen shall enjoy the exclusive right of fishery within the distance of three miles from low-water mark along the whole extent of the coast of France; the only exception to this rule being that part of the coast of France which lies between Cape Carteret and Point Menga.

The distance of three miles fixed as the general limit for the exclusive right of fishery upon the coasts of the two countries shall, with respect to bays, the mouths of which do not exceed ten miles in width, be measured from a straight line drawn from headland to headland.

The miles mentioned in the present convention are geographical miles, whereof sixty make a degree of latitude.

Art. 2. It is agreed that the lines drawn between the points designated by the letters A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, on the chart annexed to the present convention, and signed by the respective plenipotentiaries, shall be acknowledged by the high contracting parties, as defining from Point Menga to Cape Carteret, the limits between which and the French shore the right of fishery shall be reserved exclusively to French fishermen, and these lines are as follows; that is to say,

The first line runs from the point A, three miles from low-water mark (Point Meinga bearing south) to the point B, of which the landmarks are Agon Tower on with the clump of ti-ees upon Mount Huchon, and the summit of Gros Mont in a line with the semaphore on Grand Isle.

The second line runs from the said point B towards Agon Tower and the clump of trees upon Mount Huchon, in the direction north sixty-four degrees east, until, at the point C, it brings the windmill of Lingreville to bear due east.

The third line runs from point C due east towards Lingreville windmill, until the Grand Huguenant is brought to bear on the Etat Rock at point D.

The fourth line runs from point D northward (keeping the Grand Huguenant in one with the Etat Bock) until it intersects at E a line whose landmarks are Agon Tower on with Coutances Cathedral.

The fifth line runs eastward from point E to point F, where the steeple of Pirou is brought to bear in a line with the Sennequet lighthouse.

The sixth line runs from point F due north to point G, where the steeple of Blainville is brought in a line with the Sennequet lighthouse.

The seventh line runs from point G in the direction of Pirou steeple to point H, where the lighthouse on Cape Carteret bears north twenty-four degrees west.

The eighth line runs from point H to point I nearly abreast of Port Bail; point I having for landmarks the fort of Port Bail in a line with the steeple of Port Bail.

And finally, the ninth line runs from point I to the Three Grunes at point K, where Cape Carteret bears east ten degrees north, in a line with Barneville steeple.

It is further agreed that all the bearings specified in the present article are to be taken according to the true meridian, and not according to the magnetic meridian.

Ajrt. 3. The arrangements of the present convention shall apply beyond the fishery limits of both countries, as defined by the preceding articles, to the seas surrounding and adjoining Great Britain and Ireland, and adjoining the coasts of France between the frontiers of Belgium and Spain. The rules respecting oyster fishery shall, however, be observed only in the seas comprised within the limits hereinafter described.

Art. 4. All British and French fishing boats shall be lettered and numbered.

In the United Kingdom there shall be a series of numbers for the fishing boats belonging to each collectorship of customs, and in France a series of numbers for the fishing boats belonging to each district of maritime registry; and to these numbers shall be prefixed a letter (or letters) to be designated by the board of customs in the United Kingdom, and by the ministry of marine in France.

Art. 5. The letter (or letters) and number shall be placed on each bow of the boat, 3 or 4 inches (8 or 10 centimetres French) below the gunwale, and they shall be painted in white oil colour on a black ground.

For boats of 15 tons burthen and upwards the dimensions of the letters and numbers shall be 18 inches (45 centimetres French) in height, and 2 inches (5 centimetres French) in breadth.

For boats of less than 15 tons burthen, the dimensions shall be 10 inches (25 centimetres French) in height, and 1 inch (4 centimetres French) in breadth.

The same letter (or letters) and number shall also be painted on each side of the mainsail of the boat, in black oil colour on white sails, and in white oil colour on

tanned or black sails. Such letter (or letters) and number on the sails shall be one-third larger in every way than those placed in the bows of the boat.

The name of each fishing boat, and that of the port to which she belongs, shall be painted in white oil colour on a black ground on the stern of the boat, in letters which shall be at least 3 inches (8 centimetres French) in height and 1 inch (2 centimetres French) in breadth.

The letters, numbers, and names placed on the boats and on their sails shall not be effaced, covered, or concealed in any manner whatsoever.

Art. 6. All the buoys, barrels, and principal floats of each net, and all other implements of fishery, shall be marked with the same letter (or letters) and number as those of the boats to which they belong.

These letters and numbers shall be large enough to be easily distinguished. The owners of the nets or other fishing implements may further distinguish them by any private marks they judge proper.

Art. 7. The letters and numbers of British fishing boats shall, after having been entered in the registry book kept at the collectorship of customs, be inserted on the licences or other official papers of those boats.

The letters and numbers of French fishing boats shall, after having been entered in the registry book kept at the Maritime Registry Office, be inserted on the muster rolls of those boats.

Art. 8. The licences or other official papers of British fishing boats, and the muster rolls of French fishing boats, shall contain the description and tonnage of each boat, as well as the names of its owner and of its master.

Art. 9. The fishermen of both countries shall, whenever required, exhibit their licences or other official papers, or their muster rolls, to the commanders of the fishery cruisers, and to all other persons of either country appointed to superintend the fisheries.

Art. 10. Fishing of all kinds, by whatever means and at all seasons, may be carried on in the seas lying beyond the fishery limits which have been fixed for the two countries, with the exception of that for oysters, as hereinafter expressed.

This article states that there are no restrictions whatever on sea fishing, except for a few weeks as to oyster-dredging already noticed, and some regulations as between drift-nets and seine-nets and trawlers. There is no restriction in English waters as to the mesh of nets used in sea fishing, or as to close season, except on a part of the coast of Cornwall, mentioned in Art. 68, the old statutes being repealed. See schedule.

Art. 11. From the 16th of June to the 31st of August inclusive, fishing for oysters is prohibited outside the fishery limits which have been fixed for the two countries, between a line drawn from the North Foreland Light to Dunkirk, and a line drawn from the Land's End to Ushant.

During the same period and in the same part of the Channel, no boat shall have on board any oyster dredge, unless the same be tied up and sealed by the customs authorities of one of the two countries in such a manner as to prevent its being made use of.

Art. 12. No boat shall anchor between sunset and sunrise on grounds where drift-net fishing is actually going on.

This prohibition shall not apply to anchorings which may take place in consequence of accidents, or any other compulsory circumstances; but in such case the master of the boat thus obliged to anchor shall hoist, so that they shall be seen from a distance, two lights placed horizontally about 3 feet (1 metre French) apart, and shall keep those lights up all the time the boat shall remain at anchor.

Art. 13. Boats fishing with drift-nets shall carry on one of their masts two lights, one over the other 3 feet (1 metre French) apart.

These lights shall be kept up during all the time their nets shall be in the sea between sunset and sunrise.

Art. 14. Subject to the exceptions or additions mentioned in the two preceding articles, the fishing boats of the two countries shall conform to the general rules respecting lights which have been adopted by the two countries'.

Art. 15. Trawl boats shall not commence fishing at a less distance than three miles from any boat fishing with drift-nets.

If trawl boats have already shot their nets, they must not come nearer to boats fishing with drift-nets than the distance above mentioned.

Ai-t. IG. No boat fishing with drift-nets shall shoot its nets so near to any other boat which has already shot its nets on the fishing ground as to interfere with its operations.

Art. 17. No decked boat fishing with drift-nets shall shoot its nets at a less distance than a quarter of a mile from any undecked boat which is already engaged in fishing.

Art. 18. If the spot where fishing is going on should be so near to the fishery limits of one of the two countries that the boats of the other country would, by observing the regulations prescribed by Articles 15, 16, and 17 preceding, be prevented from taking part in the fishery, such boats shall be at liberty to shoot their nets at a less distance than that so prescribed; but in such case the fishermen shall be responsible for any damage or losses which may be caused by the drifting of their boats.

Ai-t. 19. Nets shall not be set or anchored in any place where drift-net fishing is actually going on.

Art. 20. No one shall make fast or hold on his boat to the nets, buoys, floats, or any part of the fishing tackle belonging to another boat.

No person shall hook or lift up the nets, lines, or other fishing implements belonging to another person.

Art. 21. When nets of different boats get foul of each other, the master of one boat shall not cut the nets of another boat except by mutual consent, and unless it be found impossible to clear them by other means.

Art. 22. All fishing boats, all rigging gear or other appurtenances of fishing boats, all nets, buoys, floats, or other fishing implements whatsoever, found or picked up at sea, shall, as soon as possible, be delivered to the receiver of wreck if the article saved be taken into the United Kingdom, and to the commissary of marine if the article saved be taken into France.

The receiver of wreck or the commissary of marine, as the case may be, shall restore the articles saved to the owners thereof, or to their representatives.

These functionaries shall fix the amount which the owners shall pay to the salvors.

Art. 23. The execution of the regulations concerning lights and signals, licences, muster rolls, and official papers, the lettering and numbering of boats and implements

of fishing, is placed, with respect to the fishermen of each of the two nations, under the exclusive superintendence of the cruisers and agents of their own nation.

Nevertheless, the commanders of the cruisers of one of the two nations shall acquaint the commanders of the cruisers of the other nation with any infractions of the above-mentioned regulations committed by the fishermen of such other nation which may come to their knowledge.

Art. 24. All infractions of the regulations concerning the placing of boats on the fishing ground, the distances to be observed between them, the prohibition of oyster fishing during a portion of the year, and concerning every other operation connected with the act of fishing, and more particularly concerning circumstances likely to cause damage, shall be taken cognizance of by the cruisers of either nation, whichever may be the nation to which the fishermen guilty of such infractions may belong.

Art. 25. The commanders of cruisers of either country shall exercise their judgment as to the causes of any infractions brought to their knowledge, or as to damage arising from any cause whatever committed by British or French fishing boats in the seas beyond the fishery limits which have been fixed for the two countries; they may detain the offending boats and take them into the port nearest the scene of the occurrence, in order that the infraction or damage may be there duly established, as well by comparing the declarations and counter-declarations of the parties interested as by the testimony of those who were present.

Art. 26. When the offence shall not be such as to require exemplary punishment, but shall nevertheless have caused damage to any fisherman, the commanders of the cruisers shall be at liberty, should the circumstances admit of it, to arbitrate at sea between the parties concerned. On refusal of the offenders to defer to their arbitration the said commanders shall take both them and their boats into the nearest port, to be dealt with as stated in the preceding article.

Art. 27. Every fishing boat which shall have been taken into a foreign port in conformity with the two preceding articles shall be sent back to her own country for trial as soon as the infraction for which she may have been detained shall have been duly established. Neither the boat nor her crew shall, however, be detained in the foreign port more than three clear days.

Art. 28. The depositions, minutes of proceedings, and all other documents concerning the infraction, after having been authenticated by the collector of customs in the United Kingdom, or by the commissary of marine in France, shall be transmitted by that functionary to the consular agent of his nation residing in the port where the trial is to take place.

Such consular agent shall communicate those documents to the collector of customs, or to the commissary of marine, as the case may be; and if, after having conferred with that functionary, it shall be necessary for the interest of his countrymen, he shall proceed with the affair before the competent tribunal or magistrates of the country.

Art. 29. In both countries the competent court or magistrate shall be empowered to condemn to a fine of at least eight shillings (ten francs), or to imprisonment for at least two days, persons who may infringe the regulations of the convention concerningâ
1. The close season for oysters, and illegal possession of dredges on board during that season; 2. The letters, numbers, and names to be placed on the boats, sails, nets,

and buoys; 3. The licences or muster rolls; 4. The ilags and lights to be carried by the boats; 5. The distances to be observed by the boats between each other; 6. The placing and anchoring of vessels and boats; 7. The placing and shooting of nets and the taking them up; 8. The clearing of nets; 9. The placing of buoys upon nets.

In case of repetition of the offence, the amount of fine or period of imprisonment may be doubled.

Art. 30. In all cases of assault committed or of damage or loss inflicted at sea by fishermen of either country upon fishermen of the other country, the courts of the country to which the offenders belong shall condemn the latter to a fine of at least eight shillings (10. francs), or to imprisonment for at least two days. They may, moreover, condemn the offenders to pay adequate compensation for the injury.

Art. 31. Fishing boats of either of the two countries shall be admitted to sell their fish in such ports of the other country as may be designated for that purpose, on condition that they conform to the regulations mutually agreed upon. Those regulations, together with a list of the ports, are annexed to the present convention; but without prejudice to the opening by either country of any additional ports.

Art. 32. The fishing boats of the one country shall not enter within the fishery limits fixed for the other country, except under the following circumstances: 1. "When driven by stress of weather or by evident damage.

2. "When carried in by contrary winds, by strong tides, or by any other cause beyond the control of the master and crew.

3. When obliged by contrary winds or tide to beat up in order to reach their fishing ground; and when from the same cause of contrary wind or tide they could not, if they remained outside, be able to hold on their course to their fishing ground.

4. When, during the herring fishing season, the herring boats of the one country shall find it necessary to anchor under shelter of the coasts of the other country, in order to await the opportunity for proceeding to their fishing ground.

5. When proceeding to any of the ports of the other country open to them for the sale of fish in accordance with the preceding article; but in such case they shall never have oyster dredges on board.

Art. 33. Fishing boats, availing themselves of the privilege specified in Art. 31, shall have oysters on board, they shall not carry any dredges or other implement for taking oysters.

Art. 34. The commanders of cruisers may authorize boats belonging to their own country to cross the exclusive fishery limits of the other country, whenever the weather is so threatening as to compel them to seek shelter.

Art. 35. Whenever, owing to any of the exceptional circumstances specified in the three preceding articles, the fishing boats of either country shall be in the ports or within the fishery limits fixed for the other country, the masters of such boats shall immediately hoist a blue flag two feet (60 centimetres French) high, and three feet (one metre French) long, and shall keep that flag flying at the masthead so long as they remain in such ports or within such limits. The flag shall be hauled down as soon as the boat is outside the said limits.

Such boats must return outside the said limits as soon as the exceptional circumstances which obliged them to enter shall have ceased.

Ai-t. 3G. The commanders of the cruisers of each of the two countries, and all officers or other agents appointed to superintend fisheries, shall exercise their judgment as to infractions of the regulations with regard to the fishery limits, and when they shall be satisfied of the fact of the infraction they may detain the boats of the offenders, or cause them to be detained, and may take them, or cause them to be taken, into port, where, upon clear proof of the offence, such boats may be condemned by the competent court or magistrate to a fine not exceeding ten pounds (250 francs). In default of payment such boats may be detained for a period not exceeding three months.

In case of repetition of the offence the fine may be doubled.

Art. 37. The proceedings and trial in cases of infraction of the provisions of the present convention shall take place as speedily and as summarily as the laws in force will permit.

Art. 88. The terms "British islands" and "United Kingdom," employed in this convention, shall include the islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, with their dependencies.

Art. 89. Her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to parliament to pass an Act to enable Her to carry into execution such of the arrangements contained in the present convention as require legislative sanction. When such an Act shall have been passed, the convention shall come into operation from and after a day to be then fixed upon by the two high contracting parties. Due notice shall be given in each country by the government of that country of the day which may be so fixed upon.

Ai't. 40. The convention shall continue in force for 10 years from the day on which it may come into operation, and if neither party shall, 12 months before the expiration of the said period of 10 years, give notice of its intention to terminate its operation, the convention shall continue in force one year longer, and so on from year to year, until the expiration of one year's notice from either party for its termination.

The high contracting parties, however, reserve to themselves the power to make, by mutual consent, any modification in the convention which experience shall have shown to be desirable, provided it is not inconsistent with the principles on which it is based.

Ai-t. 41. The convention concluded between the high contracting parties on the 2nd of August 1839, and the regulations of the 23rd of June 1843, shall continue in force until the day when, as provided in Art. 39, the present convention shall come into operation, and shall then altogether cease and determine.

Art. 42. The present convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Paris, the 11th of November in the year of our Lord 1867.

(l. s.) Lyons, (l. s.) Moustier.

Additional article. It is agreed that Art. 31 of the convention signed this day shall not come into operation until the two contracting parties shall have come to a further understanding on the subject. Due notice shall be given of the day that may be fixed upon for its coming into operation.

The present additional article shall have the same force and validity as if it were inserted, word for word, in the convention signed this day. It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at the same time as those of convention.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Paris, the 11th of November in the year of our Lord 1867.

(l. s.) Lyons, (l. s.) Moustier.

31 32 VICT. c. 45, scireDULEs. 503

Declaration annexed to the Convention of November 11, 1867.

The fishermen of each country shall not be allowed to land or discharge their fish in the other country except at places where there is a custom-house, and during office hours.

Immediately upon their arrival, and in all cases before they commence the discharge of their cargo, they shall present their muster roll, or licence, or official paper, to the proper officer of customs, and shall pass an entry at the custom-house stating as nearly as possible the quantity of fish which they have on board.

If the master of a fishing boat cannot write, the officer of customs shall fill up for him the form required, and the master shall affix his mark thereto.

The custom-house officers shall have power to board and search the fishing boats of the other country in the manner directed by the customs laws.

During their stay in the ports of the other country, the fishermen of either country shall, if required to do so by the customs authorities, deposit in a warehouse or in the customhouse, until their departure, all stores subject to duty, which shall not be necessary for their daily consumption. No charge shall be made for such warehousing.

The ports enumerated in the subjoined list, where there is a custom-house establishment, are those that shall be open in each country to the fishermen of the other country. In case the customs establishment at any of those ports should be abolished, notice thereof shall be given to the government of the other country.

List of the Ports in the United Kingdom open for the Importation of Fish by French Fishing Boats.

In the Channel Islands.

Jersey, C. Guernsey, C.

The ports in the Channel are marked with a C.

List of the Ports of the French Empire open for the
IMPORTATION of Fish BY BRITISH FISHING BOATS.

Here follows a List of Ports in France.)

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed these annexes to the convention concluded this day, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

At Paris, the 11th November, 1867.

Lyons, moustier.

SECOND SCHEDULE,

A description of a portion of an Act is inclusive of the section first or last mentioned, as forming the beginning or as forming the end of the portion comprised in the description.

DATE OF ACT.

TITLE OF ACT.

4 Hen. 7, c. 21.

7 Hen. 7, c. 9. In statutes of the realm only.

5 Eliz. c. 5.

13 14 Car. 2, 0.28.

10 Will. 3, c. 13, in statutes of the realm.

9 Anne, o. 26. c. 28, in statutes of the realm.

1 Geo. 1, s. 2, c. 18.

2 Geo. 2, 0. 19.

29 Geo. 2, o. 23. In part.

33 Geo. 2, 0. 27.

2 Geo. 3, c. 15. In part.

An Act for the preservation of the frye of fyshe. Orford.

An Act touching the Navye.

An Act for pilchard fishing in Devon and

Cornwall. An Act for making Billingsgate a free market.

An Act for the fishery-within the river of Thames.

An Act for preventing fresh fish taken by foreigners being imported.

An Act for the oyster fishery in the river Med way.

An Act for the fisheries in Scot-) In part; land. namely,

Except sects. 1 and 17, so far as they relate to Scotland.

An Act to repeal so much of an Act, 29 Geo. 2, concerning a free market for fish
at Westminster.

An Act for the better supplying)-â the cities of London and West- " I' " ' minster
with fish.-) "" "" 'O'j

E. cept 5cct. 7.

11 Geo. 3, c. 31. In part.

19 Geo. 3, c. 26. 26 Geo. 3, c. 45.

26 Geo. 3, c. 81.

In part.

27 Geo. 3, c. 10.

30 Geo. 3, c. 54.

31 Geo. 3, c. 45. 35 Geo. 3, c. 54.

35 Geo. 3, c. 56.

36 Geo. 3, c. 77.

36 Geo. 3, c. 118.

37 Geo. 3, c. 94.

38 Geo. 3, c. 58.

39 Geo. 3, c. 100.

In part.

39 40 Geo. 3, c. 85. 39 40 Geo. 3, c. 107. 41 Geo. 3, sess. 2.

41 Geo. 3, sess. 2. c. 99.

42 Geo. 3, c. 3. 42 Geo. 3, c. 19.

42 Geo. 3, c. 79.

42 Geo. 3, c. Ixxxviii 43 Geo. 3, c. 29.

44 Geo. 3, c. 86.

102.

45 Geo.3, c.-.

46 Geo. 3, c. 34. 47 Geo.3, sess.2, c.51 47 Geo. 3, sess. 2, C.67.

An Act for the white herring) In part; fishery.— namely,

Except sects. 11 to 13. An Act to continue and amend 11 Geo.3, c. 31. An Act to amend an Act, 25 Geo. 3, for the pilchard fishery.

An Act for the British fisheries. 1814

Except sect. 19. An Act to extend an Act, 26 Geo. 3, c. 81. An Act for Westminster fish market. An Act for the pilchard fishery. An Act for the mackerel fishery. An Act to amend an Act, 26 Geo. 3, c. 81. An Act to explain an Act, 35 Geo. 3, for the mackerel fishery. An Act for fish at Billingsgate. An Act to continue 31 Geo. 3, c. 45. An Act to continue 35 Geo. 3, c. 56. An Act to revive certain Acts for) In part; extending the fisheries.—) namely, Sect. 1. An Act to continue 39 Geo. 3, c. 100. An Act to permit importation of Swedish herrings. An Act relating to encouraging the fisheries.

An Act for boimties for bringing fish to

London and Westminster. An Act to revive an Act 41 Geo. 3. An Act to amend 29 Geo. 3. An Act to revive several Acts for British fisheries. An Act for repealing so much of an Act, 2 (ieo. 3, c. 15. An Act to revive and continue, c. An Act for reviving several laws relating to

British fisheries. An Act for the pilchard fishery. An Act for the British fisheries. An Act for the British fisheries. An Act to permit importation of Swedish herrin: rs.

31 32 VICT. c. 45, SCHEDULES.

DATE OF ACT.

TITLE OF ACT.

48 Geo. 3, c. 86. 48 Geo. 3, c. 110. In part.

50 Geo.3, c. 54.

50 Geo. 3, c. 108.

In part.

51 Geo. 3, c. 34.

51 Geo. 3, c. 101.

52 Geo. 3, c. 42.

54 Geo. 3, c. 102.

55 Geo. 3, c. 94.

In part.

59 Geo. 3, c. 77.

1 Geo. 4, c. 82. 1 Geo. 4, c. 103. 1 2 Geo. 4, c. 79. In part.

5 Geo. 4, c. 64.

In part.

7 Geo. 4, c. 34. 11 Geo.4|will.4, c. 54. In part.

4 r-, Will. 4, c. 20.

6 7 Vict. c. 79.

An Act for the Briti." h fisheries. An Act for the British wliite) In part; herring fishery.—) namely, E. vcept sects. 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12,18, 31,,32, 34 to 45, 47 to

50, 51, 53, 54, and 56 to 60, so far as they relate to Scotland, and are not inconsistent with this Act. An Act for the British fisheries. An Act for the fisheries of this In part; Kingdom.— j namely, Sects. 1 to 4. An Act for the Southern whale fishery. An Act for the British white herring fishery. An Act for l)ounties on pilchards. An Act relating to the British white herring fishery.

An Act relating to the British In' part; white herring fishery.— namely,

Except sects. 1 to 4, 9 to 15, 17, 18, 20, as they relate to Scotland, and are not inconsistent Avith this Act.

An Act to continue bounties on pilchards exported. An Act for the Irish fisheries. An Act for the British fisheries.

An Act to repeal cerhiin bounties "" i ' 'â I namely,

Except sect. 9 and except sects. 3 and 5 so far as they relate to Scotland. An Act for the British and Irish In part; fisheries.—) namely.

Sects. 1 to 8. An Act for the British and Irish fisheries.

In part; namely, So much as relates to England, and so much as is inconsistent with this Act, An Act to explain 33 Geo. 2, c. 27. An Act to carry into elfect a convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French concernin;! the fisheries.

An Act relating to the fisheries 14 15 Vict. c. 26. In part.

1819Vict. clol.

23 24 Vict. c. 92.

In part.

24 25 A ict. c. 72.

In part.

28 29 Vict. c. 22,

In part.

29 30 Vict. c. 85.

30 31 Vict. c. 18.

An Act relating to the British I In part; white herring fishery.— J namely, Sects. 5 and 6. An Act for the more effectual execution of the convention between Her Majesty and the French government. An Act relative to Scottish herring) In part; fisheries.—) namely,

Sects. 7, 11 to 13, and 25. An Act for the British white) In part; herring fishery in Scotland.-) namely, Sects. 2, 3, and 6, and so much of the remainder of the Act as is inconsistent with this Act. An Act to amend the Acts relating In part; to the Scottish herringfisheries. (namely. So much as is inconsistent with tliis Act. An Act to facilitate the establishment, improvement, and maintenance of oyster and mussel fisheries in Great Britain. An Act for the preservation and fuiiher protection of oyster fisheries.

Note. â Tlie repeal of the above Acts relating to sea fisheries may be compared with the repeal of the Salmon Fishery Acts, ante, pp. 366, 367.

In addition to the cases included in the notes to the Salmon Fishery and Sea Fishery Acts, the following cases may be noticed:â

A person who poaches fish within a several fishery in tidal waters is liable to be convicted in the same way as if poaching in private waters: Paleij v. IHRch, 8 B. S. 336; 31 J. P. 548. In order to convict a person who poaches, that is to say, trespasses

for the purpose of fishing, and who sets up a claim of right, such claim must be one that can exist in point of law, otherwise he will have no defence. Thus if he says, he, as one of the public, had a right to fish in private waters, that being an impossible right, cannot be recognized by the justices: *Hudson v. Macrae*, 4 B. S. 585; 33 L. J. M. C. 112; 9 L. T. (n. s.) 678; 28 J. P. 436. It would be different if the same right be set up to fish in tidal waters where *prima facie* the public have a right to fish: *II. v. Stimpson*, 9 Cox C. C. 356; 4 B. S. 301; 32 L. J. M. C. 279.

The Thames. The Thames Conservancy Act, 20 21 Vict. c. 147, s. 76, imposed a penalty of 5l. on persons obstructing assistant bailiffs in searching boats for spawn, c.: *Tennidrie v. Shaw*, 3 L. T. (n. s.) 847; 3 E. E. 588; 30 L. J. Q. B. 200. A later Act, 27 28 Vict. c. 113, s. 65, gave powers to the conservators to make bye-laws for protecting the fisheries in the river, and a bye-law was made applicable to all river fish. It was held that eels were river fish, and subject to the bye-law: *Woodhouse v. Etheridge*, L. E. 6 C. P. 570; 24 L. T. (n. s.) 709.

SCOTLAND.

Since the Act 25 26 Vict. c. 97, ante, p. 310, was passed, other amending Acts were passed, namely, 26 27 Vict. c. 50, and 27 28 Vict. c. 118, and the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act, 1868, 31 32 Vict. c. 123. The 11th and 12th sections of the Act 25 26 Vict. c. 97, were repealed, and other sections substituted by the Act 31 32 Vict. c. 123. The Act 31 32 Vict. c. 123 amends the previous Act as to fishery districts and members of boards, and confirms the bye-laws made by the Scotch fishery commissioners, and adopts many of the enactments of the English Fishery Acts as to illegal modes of fishing. The Sea Fisheries Act, 1868, ante, p. 462, extends to Scotland. Two other herring fisheries Acts besides those noticed ante, pp. 169, 170, were passed, in 1865, 28 29 Vict. c. 22, and 1867, 30 31 Vict. c. 52. But the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868, repealed so much of 28 29 Vict. c. 22 as was inconsistent; and by 30 31 Vict. c. 52, herring fishing may be carried on at any time and with any net having a mesh not less than that then permitted by law. As to these restrictions, see the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868.

In addition to the authorities referred to in the former part of this work, the following cases may be noticed:

Where a barony partly adjoined the sea and partly adjoined two rivers, and the title to the lands had no express grant of salmon fishery, but in the river the owner had exercised the fishery for forty years, but not in the sea, it was held he was entitled to the fishery in the river, but not in the sea: *Lord Advocate v. Cathcart*, 43 Sc. Jur. 500.

A proprietor of salmon fisheries in one half of a navigable river has no right to cross the medium filum for the purpose of fixing an apparatus from which to observe the passage of fish up the stream on his own side: *Machraire v. Mather*, 43 Sc. Jur. 506.

A sand-bank of a shifting character formed in the bed of a tidal navigable river on one side does not alter the medium filum: *Earl of Zetland v. Glover, Corporation of Perth*, 42 Sc. Jur. 501. See also *Earl Wemyss v. Lord Provost of Perth*, 39 Sc. Jur. 429; *Wedderburn v. Paterson*, 36 Sc. Jur. 452.

Where a river is not adapted for net fishing, the exercise of the right to fish with rod and line will give sufficient possession under a grant *in jure*. And a

proprietor of salmon fishing in a river on one side in one county cannot exclude an opposite proprietor in another county who has exercised the right of fishing from time immemorial on his own side: *Earl Dalhousie v. McInroij*, 42 Sc. Jur. 256. But where rod fishing only is practicable, then exercise of that right for forty years will confirm the title: *Stewart v. Muc-barnett*, 40 Sc. Jur. G33.

Where an owner has nothing but a grant cum piscationibus, and his river is capable of being fished with net and coble, but he has only fished with rod and line, this possession will not support his title to the salmon fishery, and cairn fishing will not amount to possession in support of an incomplete title: *Thick of I'dcliont v. Earl Seujield*, 42 Sc. Jur. 246. A tenant under an ordinary agricultural lease has no right to fish for trout in a stream or lake within the farm without an express grant in the lease: *Maxivcu v. Copland*, 41 Sc. Jur. 79; 43 Sc. Jm-. 24G. If a landlord reserve the rod fishing for amusement only, this is a personal right, and does not include friends: *Duke of Richmond v. Duf*, 39 Sc. Jur. 133. A member of the public has no right to fish with rod and line in a tidal navigable river: *Anderson v. Anderson*, 40 Sc. Jur. 87. A barony charter expressly granting white fishing does not exclude salmon fishing if exercised for forty years: *Milnes 'J'rustres v. Cominissiuoners of Woods and Forests*, 40 Sc. Jur. 557. It is not decided whether the Crown can competently grant thewdiite fishing to a subject: *Duchess of Sutherland v. Watson*, 40 Sc. Jur. 119.

Though the Act 31 32 Vict. c. 23, Â 21, imposes a penalty on those who sell or have in their possession a salmon between the commencement of the latest and the termination of the earliest close time, there is an implied exception in favour of fish lawfully caught with the rod: *Blair v. Shepherd*, 43 Sc. Jur. 380.

"Parr" are included in the word salmon-fry as well as salmon, under the Act 31 32 Vict. c. 123: *Blair v. Miller*, 43 Sc. Jur. 18.

A private prosecutor, though having no interest, may enforce the Act 31 32 Vict. c. 123, for taking fish in close time, though not asking for forfeiture: *Ilannj v. Stirrat*, 42 Sc. Jur. 1.

Under the Act 24 25 Vict. c. 97, Â 6, a millowner is bound at his own expense to make a proper fish pass over his dam, whether the dam is ancient or not: *Kennedy v. Murray*, 41 Sc. Jur. 500.

A riparian owner has in general no right to alter the banks and bed of the river, or build on his half of the bed, though no actual (damage is proved to accrue to the opposite riparian owner: *Birket v. Morris*, 38 Sc. Jur. 547.

Though an appeal to the circuit court is the only remedy against a conviction under 31 32 Vict. c. 123, yet if the judgment was not issued till some days after its date the court will quash the conviction: *Macalister v. Cawan*, 41 Sc. Jur. 604.

A complaint to enforce a bye-law ought to be by summary petition to the sheriff, and failing obedience the defendant may be proceeded against under Â 28 of 25 26 Vict. c. 97: *Blair V. Saideman*, 41 Sc. Jur. 642.

The complainant may appeal to the circuit court as well as the defender, and the oath of one credible witness is sufficient to support the complaint: *Joij) v. Piries*, 41 Sc. Jur. 392.

Under the Scotch Mussel Fisheries Act, 10 11 Vict. c. 92, Â 1, ante, p. 169, where the fishery belongs to the burgh the fishermen in the borough are liable to the

punishment if they take the mussels: *Chisholm v. Blade*, 43 Sc. Jur. 415. A barony title to lands with the salmon fishing and power of killing and catching other fishes, as well small as great, upon the sands, is a good title on which to prescribe an exclusive right to the mussel scalps on the said sands: *Duchess of Sutherland v. Watson*, 40 Sc. Jur. 119. A charter with a clause cum piscationibus seems to give no title to the mussel fishing until prescriptive possession has followed: *Lindsay V. Robertson*, 40 Sc. Jur. 494.

Tweed. â The only remedy under 20 21 Vict. c. 148, Â 96, ante, p. 242, against a conviction under the *Tweed Act*, 22 23 Vict. c. 70, Â 11, ante, p. 286, is by appeal to the Circuit Court, and when a third offence has been committed, though not the same offence as the first and second, the higher penalty applies: *Clark v. Bathgate*, 8th Feb. 1872; 44 Sc. Jur. 257.

Under the 12th section of 22 23 Vict. c. 70, a complaint of a bag-net not having openings during weekly close time need not allege that the net was so set as to be capable of having the openings, and the maximum penalty is ten pounds, and ten shillings for each fish caught: *Johnston v. Bobson*, 40 Sc. Jur. 512.

Solu-ay. â The English commissioners of fisheries decided that they had no jurisdiction over the Scotch side of the

Solway under the Act 28 29 Vict. c. 121, and this decision was approved by the high officers of the Crown; so that the anomalies in the law prevailing there can only be remedied by further legislation,

IRELAND.

Since the *Salmon Fishery (Ireland) Act*, 18G3, ante, p. 325, was passed, further Acts have been passed relating to Irish fisheries, but no consolidation of the Acts has yet been made. These additional Acts are the *Salmon Fishery (Ireland) Act*, 1869, 32 Vict. c. 9; the *Fisheries (Ireland) Act*, 18(39, 32 33 Vict. c. 92; also 29 30 Vict. c. 88; 29 30 Vict. c. 97.

The Courts have held that in rivers navigable but not tidal, the public have no right to fish, and that the fishery belongs to the riparian owner: *Murphy v. Litan*, C. P. 20th Jan. 1868.

TABLE OF CASES CITED IN NOTES. (See also ante, p. xxiii.)

Adley v. Reeves, 476. *Attorney General v. Bradford*, 342.

V. Gee, 342.

V. Great Eastern Company, 394.

V. Kingston, 342.

V. Lord Lonsdale, 393.

Ba. Skerville's Case, 347. *Bevans v. Bird*, 348. *Birkett v. Morris*, 393. *Birch v. Turner*, 347.

Booth v. Brough, 348. *Bdwt'u's Case*, 346. *Bridges v. Highton*, 393.

Ciulisle, Mayor of, v. Graham, 393. *Cator v. Metropolitan Board*, 342. *Clevlam, Duchess of, Case*, 347. *Cracknell v. Thetford*, 394. *Crossley v. Lightowler*, 393.

Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Case, 347.

Edleston v. Crossley, 393. *Edgar v. Special Commissioners*, 389. *Exeter, Mayor of, v. Devon*, 394.

Ford v. Lacey, 393. *Free Fishers of WTitstable v. Foreman*, 476.

- Gann v. Wlutstable, 389, 476.
 Garnett v. Backhouse, 350, 366, 394.
 Goldsraid v. Tunbridge "Wells Commissioners, 342.
 Gore V. Special Commissioners, 347.
 Grand Junction Canal v. Shu-gar, 394,
 Harrop v. Hirst. 393. Hill V. Cock, 394. Hills V. Hunt, 476. Hodgkinson v. Ennor, 342. Hodgson V. Little, 355, 356. Holliord v. George, 347, 389. Hopton V. Thirlwall, 352, 353. Hudson V. Macrae, 509.
 Leconfield v. Lonsdale, 394. Lecontield, Lord, Case of, 347. Lewis V. Arthur, 386. Linton's Case, 347. Lutridge's Case, 348. L Tie V. Fennell, 386.
 Malcolmson v. O'Dea, 17,22,38, 54, 104,389. Mason v. Shrewsbury, 394.
 Medway Navigation v. Romney, 394. Michael's Case, 346.
 Mills V. Colchester, 393, 475. Miner v. Gilmour, 138, 394. Moulton V. Welby, 350. Murphy v. Ryan, 513.
 Norbury v. Kitchen, 394. Northumberland, Duke of, v.
 Houghton, 389. Nuttall V. Bracewell, 393, 394.
 Olding V. Wild, 346, 348.
 Paley v. Birch, 509.
 Raby v. Seed, 348. Rawstone v. Backhouse, 389. R. V. Burrow, 348. R. V. Downing, 476.
 â V. Grey, 374.
 â V. Stimpson, 127, 509. Roberts v. Rose, 394. Roue V. Whyte, 394.
 Saxby v. Manchester Company, 394.
 Shuttleworth v. Fleming, 393.
 Stafford Canal v. Birmingham, 394.
 Stockport Waterworks v. Potter, 393.
 Thomas v. Jones, 346. Turnidge v. Shaw, 509.
 Walls V. Kelson, 393. Waller v. Manchester, 394. Watts V. Lucas, 347. Williams v. Blackwall, 346. Wilson V. Stanley, 393. Woodhouse v. Etheridge. 509.
 Ahnting obstructions of fishery, 96; fixed engines, 346; weirs in Irel., 266, 268; natural obstructions in rivers in Irel., 2G5; (S-ot.) 312.
 Abettors of fish poaching, 81.
 Action for obstructing common fishery, 101; for several fishery, 111; for free fishery, 112; for common fishery, 114.
 Anguncj in duy-thne, 73, 79; right at common law, 119, 121; poaching, how punished, 122; penalties on, 123; when anglers may be apprehended, 124; when baskets may be searched, 126, 435; rod and tackle, when seizable, 125; remedies against poaching anglers, 126; claim of right to angle, 127; dedication to public of right to angle, 129; right to fish angled, 130; purchase or lease of rod fishing, 131; for salmon, 132; taking young of salmon, 353; close season as to salmon, 133; as to trout and char, 405, 423; no weekly close season as to trout, 356, 439; variation of, by bye-laws, 439; selling angled salmon in close season, 133, 422; on Sunday, 133,356; allowed at mill races; 349; at weirs, 349, 419; at fish passes, 419; license duty for, 3. S3, 385, 424; use of gaff and laudiug-net, 343, 426; use of galf fi)r, may be prohibited by bye-law, 440.

Scot.) generally, 223; for salmon, 223; in close time, 224; selling salmon angled, 225; trout, 225; from highway, 227; trout in salmon rivers, 228; seizing rod, 203.

Anyling Irel.) license duty on, 260, 263.

Annual close season; see Close season.

Appeal to superior court against conmissioners, 397; to quarter sessions against conviction, 406; under Sea Fisheries Act, 485.

Apprehending poachers, 77, 124, offenders against Salmon Fisheries Acts during night, 438; sea fisliery off'euders, 465.

Scot.) salmon poachers, 205, 207; trout poachers, 217, 219; salmon anglers, 2C)6, 207, 224; trout anglers, 226; poachers and anglers on Tweed, 233, 234.

Irel.) offenders against Fishery Acts, 233, 234. Appurtenant to land, fishery as, 57; to pasture, 389. Arresting offenders; see Apprehending. Artificial prapagation, taking fish for, 34-4, 352, 353, 403, 405. Asses-wients by district boards in

Scot. 202; Irel.) 250, 253, 265. Attorney General suing for the public, 342. Audit of accounts of board, 376 381.

Bag of fishermen, searching, 436. Bag-nets, none in England, KM; (Scot.) 182; Tweed, 238; Irel.) 268, 325. Bail beds in Irel. 260.

Bailiffs; see Water bailiff.

Hank of river, traverse of, l)y water bailiff, isy; purchase of, for fish pass, 448 J owtiers of fisheries ex-officio conservators, 428.

Basket of fishermen, search of, 436.

Beating the water in Tweed, 238.

Bermonei boat fishing in Scot. 184.

Bill of peace to quiet title, 115.

Board; see Fishery board, Conservator.

Boats used in fishing, search of, 435; marks and labels for, 440; in illegal fishing, Irel. 332; in Scot. 205; removal of, in close time, in Tweed, 236; used in sea-fishing, 365, 470, 494; trawl fishing, 497; drift-net fishing, 496.

Boxes, fish, in weirs, how constructed, 362; removal of, in close time, 355; as to weekly close time, 356; spurwalls to, 363; forfeiture of, for want of fish pass, 449.

Burning the water in trout fishing in Scot. 212.

Buying salmon, c.; see Sale.

Bye-latos, mode of making, 439; penalties for violation, 402, 440; may apply to part of district, 442; confirmation of, 442; open to inspection, 443; publication of, 443; when binding, 443; proof of, 444.

Canal, fishery in, 66; gratings to, 352; compauiies' rights, 393, 394, 445.

Certificate of formation of fishery district, 415; of being conservator, 386; by commissioners for fixed engines, 289, 400; for legal fishing weirs, 390.

Chancery, remedies in, as to fishery, 115; as to poisoning rivers, 342

Char; see Trout.

Claim of right set up before justices to fish, 82, 348; to angle, 127, 128.

Cleek. i in river Tweed, 240.

Close time, annual, as to places not in fishery districts, 354, 412; penalty for catching during, 354, 410; as to fishery districts, 354, 410, 423; as to fixed engines, 354; as to fishing mill dams, 355; penalties vary to meet, 410; alteration by bye-laws,

439; for rods, 411; alteration of rod close time by bye-laws, 439; deterring salmon in, 418; selling salmon during, 422; selling pickled salmon, 422; as to eels in salmon rivers, 417; as to trout and char, 405, 423; as to sea-fish and oysters, 496.

weekly, as to places not in fishery districts, 356, 412; as to fixed engines 355; as to fishing mill dams, 356; none as to anglers, 356; none as to trout and char, 356, 439; penalties vary as to, 410, 412; opening in fishing boxes dui-ing, 355, 356; alteration by bye-laws, 439; deterring salmon during, 418.

Scot.) as to salmon.

195; angling salmon, 225, 313 j as to trout, 217, 224; sea fish, 496, 510.

(Irez.) salmon, 275,333; trout, 276; eels, 277; oysters, 250, 471.

Cohle in Scot. 183.

Commissioners special, for England, 388, 391, 399; who were, 399; discontinuance of, 409; Scot. 199, 311, 315; Irel.) 248, 251.

Common fishery, what, 4, 10; action for obstruction of, 101.

Common of fishery, what, 54; different kinds, 56; remedy for obstruction, 101.

Compensation for injury caused by fish pass, 357; time for recovering, 403; conservator may recover, 445.

Compulsory purchase of weir, 416; of bank for fish pass, 448.

Confirmation of bye-laws, 442.

Conservators; see Fishery board; ap)oiutmeut, 371, 37f); ex officio, who are,"l: i8; olettetl, 12U; tuiiure of ofkcv, 370; when iitij' enter on hinds, 381; recoveriii: f couipcksiitioii for weir, ilij; no mode of proving appointment defined, 386,136.

Conxtajle, additional power to obtain, 37'J; punishment for resist-in- 1,37.

Conrention with United States, 11; witli Franec, AM, 492.

Coinuotion for poacling fish, 83; under Salmon Fishery Aets may be appealeil against, 406; thinl conviction, 4'01, 402; minute of, to be sent to board of conservators, 416.

Cornwall, seine-fishing in, 490.

Coiinlif, dilinition of, 373, 387.

Cribx for salmon; see Boxes; (Scot.) 194; (L-fl.) 272, 276, 279, 333.

Cross-linejishiug, 314; license for, 461; close time for, 344; as to trout, Scot.) 212; (;â Â â;.) 270.

Crown, license of, for foreigners, 6; grant of several fishery by, 11, 16, 389; right of, since Magna Charta, 20; right of, to royal fish, 2t; (Sco(!.) 165; grant of salmon fishing by, in Scot. 174.

Criiire-t for salmon; sec Soxes; (Scot.) 194, 312; (Irel.) 276, 279.

Custom as to whale fishing, 7, 8; of drying nets, 29; Scot.) 187; of villagers to fish, 115; Scot.) 227.

Curtains officer opening boxes, 406.

Damage feasant, distraining nets, 98.

Dams; sec Fishitij mill dams. Weirs and Fisiini weirs; definition of, 340; obstruction of fish by, 350; maliciously destroying, 87; using for fishing salmon, 3 19; diferent kinds of, 349, 350; mill dams, fishing at, 349; making fish pass over, 348, 350, 357, 358, 420; eel baskets at, 417; fisli-ing within 100 yards of, 418, 420; baililf may examine, 435; inspectors may eainine, 454; rebuilding without fish pass, 444; com-

julsory purchase of, 447; com-jjeusation for injury to, 445; purchasing bank adjoining, 449. Daii'time, definition of, 73, 123. Deccoi, bailift's not to enter, 4;37. Dedication of right of fishery by owner to public, 110, 129. Deed necessary to convey fishery, 57, 67.

Definitions of salmon, 310; young of salmon, 340; tidal waters, 340; court, 340; inland waters, 310; dam, 340; fishing weir, 3 M), 411; fishing mill dam, 34U; fixed engine, 341, 345, 387, 411; Homo Olfice, 311; river, 373; salmon river, 373; quarter sessions, 373; county, 373, 387; annual close season, 410; weekly close season, 410; close season for rods, 411; grating, 411; inspectors, 411; occupier, 411; otter lath and jack, 412; owner, 395, 412,-tls; secretary of state, 412; rod and line, 412; strokehall or snatch, 412.

Deterring salraou in close time, 418; at weirs, 419; at fish passes, 357, 419; at free gajjs, 362.

Disability of ex-officio conservators 429.

District; see Fishery district.

Distraining nets of trespassers, 98; sec iv' '.

Disturbance of free fishery, 112; of common of fishery. 111; of fish at dams, 418; at free gaps, 362; of fish spawning, 353.

Dociiementari Evidence Act to apply to jiroof ot" scale of licenses, 458.

Doiiceii-net in Wales, 346.

Double-rod fishing of trout in Scot. 212; see Cross-lines.

Draft-net, prohibition of, within 100 yards ot another, 417; license duty for, 417, iql; limiting length of, 439.

J)rft-iiiefs for salmon, license for, 461; for sea fisheries, 496: limiting length of, for salmon, 439.

J)welliÂ ff-hotise, fishery near, protected by statute, 73, 74; angling near, 123; water bailiff not to enter, 437.

JJel Jislieries, close time in salmon rivers, 417; baskets for, 417; nets for, at night, 441; bj e-laws affecting, 441; in Irel. 277; close time in Irel. 277; spawn of, 273.

'Ejectment, if it lies for fishery, 100.

'Election of representative members of board, 429; how, 431.

Engine, fixed; see Fixed engine.

Entry on lands by water bailifi", 381, 437; on premises suspected, 364; by conser-vator, 364, 380, 381; by inspectors, 453.

Esk, river within English Acts, 404, 512; conservators for, 416.

Evidence of several fishery, 102; of ancient user, 103, 348, 389; on applying for injunction, 116; of fonnation of fishery district, 415; of scale of licenses, 458.

Ex-ojffrcio conservators, 428; signing declaration, 429.

Exjyortaiion of salmon during close time, 371, 405, 407; penalties, 406.

Exposing for sale; see ISale.

Fast and loose, rule of, in whale fishing, 7, 8.

lushing in sea; sec Sea.

Fish, other than salmon, within fishery districts, bye-law for, 440.

Fish boxes; see Boxes.

Fish pass required before using fishing box, 349, 350; nature of pass in fishing mill dams, 349, 350, 358; secretary of state may approve, 349, 357, 382, 448, 451; requisites of proper, 351, 358, 446, 449; penalty for injuring, 358, 446; alteration of, in fishery districts, 382; required for using fixed engine in mill race, 349; fishing near weirs without a, 349, 419; rebuilding or raising weirs without, 359, 444; shutting sluices for benefit of, 360; compensation for erecting, 357, 403, 453; power of conservators to make, 380; purchasing bank of river for, 449. Fish roe of salmon trout or char, 144, 344; for artificial propagation, 344, 403. Fishermen exempted from impressment, 9; right to use sea shore and banks, 28, 29; Scot.) 187; Irel.) 253; doing damage while fishing, 31; exemption from seizure in war, 9; assisting in using licensed nets, 424. Fishery, definition of, 1; Scot.) 170; kinds of, 4; common, 4, 10; general right of public in sea and tidal waters, 14; several, in sea, how acquired, 45, 49; free, what, 51, 53, 54; conveyance of, by deed, 53; license of, 57; not an easement, 57; appurtenant to land, 57; grant of, 66; lease of, 67; rateability of, 68; larceny in, 70, 72; poaching in, 75â 84; obstructing, 95; ejectment for, 100; opposite riparian owners, as to, 108, 109; non-user of, 109, 389, 393; remedies as to, 110â 115; angling, 119â 134. Fishery board, who are conservators, 376, 428; appointment of, 374, 376; informal appointment, 377; vacancies, 379; tenure of office, 376; powers of, 379; proceedings of, 378; power of secretary of state to alter number, 415; clerk of peace to send notice of appointment, 377, 415; mortgaging license duties, 381; minute of conviction to be sent to, 416; purchasing weir, 446; purchasing bank, 448; application of funds of, 427; may vary license with approval of secretary of state, 427; continuance of old, 134; evidence of proceedings of, 435; authorizing; bailiff to enter lands, 437; making gratings, 440, 456; audit of accounts of, 381.

Fishert district, formation of, 373; power to alter, 413; power to combine, 414; notices before alteration of, 414; certificate of formation of, 414.

Fishery commissioners, appointment of, 388, 398.

Fishery committee, appointment of, 375.

Fishing mill dams, definition of, 310, 394; using without fish pass, 349, 350; using boxes in close time, 355, 356; legality of, decided by commissioners, 391, 392; exempt from prohibition of fishing near dams, 419; construction of boxes in, 363; spurwalls at, 363; effect of such dams described, 391, 392; want of fish passes in, 349, 358, 450; rights connected with, 393; fishing within 100 yards of, 419; forfeiture of box in, 450; definition of, 341, 411, 412.

Fishing weirs, definition of, 341, 411, 412; require gap, 349; how gap enforced, 362; construction of boxes in, 363; spurwalls at, 363; jurisdiction of commissioners over, 390.

Fishing implements, illegal, 343; apprehending those using, by night, 438.

Fixed engine, definitions of, 340, 346, 388, 411, 412; ditto kinds of, 146, 347; ancient right to, 3 KJ, 348, 389, 394; weekly close season, as to, 355, 356; production of license for, 387; certificate for, privileged, 389; for sea fish, if legal, 389; licenses for, 423.

Fig-nets, none in England, 401; see Bag-nets.

Floating-nets, when fixed engines, 411.

Foreign salmon, sale of, 422.

Forfeiture of illegal instruments, 313; of salmon roe, 341; of nets of small mesh, 345; of fixed engines, illegal, 345; of traps and nets at mills, 319; of salmon caught at mills, 349; of unclean fish, 352; of young salmon, 353; of rods and nets for young salmon, 353; of salmon caught in close time, 354, 403; of cribs and boxes not removed in close time, 355; of salmon caught and nets used in weekly close time, 356; of salmon caught at fish passes, 357; of salmon illegally exported, 371, 405; of license on second conviction, 401; payment of proceeds of, 404'; of trout and char caught in close time, 405; appeal to quarter sessions as to, 406; of nets used near weirs, 419; of salmon bought in close time, 422; of trout and char in close time, 423; water bailiff seizing things forfeited, 436; of fish box for want of fish pass, 450; application of, 457.

Fouling river; see Poisoning.

Free Jixherg, what, 51; conveyed by deed, 53; remedies for obstructing, 112.

Free gaps in tislhing weirs, 319, 361; construction of, 361; obstruction of, 362; how enforced, 362; alteration of, in districts, 382; (Irel.) 269, 327; how enforced, 329.

France, convention with, as to fishing, 462, 492.

Gaffs in salmon fishing, not illegal, 313, 12(); unless used alone. 343; regulated by bye-laws, 4-10.

Grant by Crown of several fishery in sea, 15; subsequent to Magna Charta, 22; ancient grants, how construed, 61, 104, 105, 389; two competing grants, 106; presumption of grant, 101, 107; of salmon fishing in Scot., 174.

Grant offisheri, what is meant by, 59; if it carries the soil, 60; construction of ancient, 61, 105, 389; by deed, 53.

Gratings, definition of, 411; for navigable canals, 351; bye-law for placing, 440; at whose expense made, 455; widening channels for, 455; compensation for injury by, 452; who to preserve, 456.

Saaf or halve-nets, legality, 347. Hancinct, legality of, 411, 413; limiting length of, 439. Head race; see Mill race. Herring fishery, free around coast of England, 496; no fixed size of nets for, 496. Jlig? iicay, angling from, in Scot.

227. Hods, legality of, 347, 348. Home Office; see Secretarii of State. Hook used as a snatch, illegal, 343, 412. Hjdranlic machines in Irel. to be fenced, 335.

Imprisonment for fishery offences, 73, 79, 122, 382, 401, 499.

Improvements for protection of salmon, additional license duty, 454.

Indictment for poaching fish, 75.

Injunction against poachers, 115.

Inland toaters, definition, 310.

Inspection of dams and mill races, 435, 453.

Inspectors of salmon fisheries, appointment of, 364, 411; approval of gratings, 351; search warrant for, to enter premises, 364; obstructing, in viewing dams, 453. of oyster fisheries, 473.

Instruments, illegal, what are, 343; possession of, at night, 438.

Interdict, remedy of, in Scot. 190.

Ireland, fisheries of, 247, 248-51, 513; fishery commissioners, 251; fishery districts, 249; bye-laws, 252; meaning of terms, 252; funds of fishery board, 252; use of shore by herring fishermen, 253; fishing vessels, 254; sea-nets, 254; sea fish near weirs, 256; oysters, 257, 471, 489; stealing oysters, 257, 481; power to make oyster beds,

257,260; close season for oysters, 259; bait beds, 260; scale of license duties, 260, 261; licenses, how obtained, 264; rate on fisheries, 265; natural obstructions in rivers, 265; fishing weirs, 265, 266; fixed nets, 267, 268; bag-nets, 269; boxes and cribs, 269; free gaps, 269; otters, spears, gaffs, 270; fishing at mill dams, 270; night fishing, 271; disturbing spawning fish, 271; nets at mill dams, 272; nets at mouths of rivers, 272; nets in inland rivers, 272; meshes of nets, 273; spawn of salmon, trout, and eels, 273; unclean fish, 274; poisoning rivers, 274; annual close time, 275; fishing weirs in close time, 276; close time for trout, 276; for angling, 277; for eels, 277; removing nets in close time, 278; fishing in close time, 278; weekly close time, 279; poaching in private fishery, 280; entering lands to fish, 280; offenders bound to tell their names, 281; offenders using violence, 282; water bailiffs, 283; procedure, 285; Salmon Fishery Acts, 325, 513; Sea Fishery Act, 462, 471.

Jack, in fishing for salmon, definition, 412; prohibition of, 343,

Jackass-net in Wales, legality of, 346.

Justice, taking poacher before, 79; action against, for convicting of poaching, 83; granting search warrant, 78, 364; granting warrant to enter lands, 381; jurisdiction of, under Salmon Fisheries Acts, 364, 365, 4U1, 102, 456; as to poaching, 84; see Scotland, Ireland; t uarter sessions, dis-qualification of, for hearing cases, 40J.

Ladders; see Fish pass; to be open to inspection in Irel. 335.

Lake, hailitf travitsing, 437; fishing in, in Scot. 191.

L'indi. n i-net in sahnon fishing, 426.

Larceny Act, provisions of, as to poaching fish, 70, 73; see Poaching.

Lath for fisliing sahuou defined, 412; prohibition of, 314.

Leader to fishing weirs, 363; license duty on, 461.

Lease of fishery, 67; lands containing fishery, 67; of rod fishing, 131.

Legality; see Commissioners, several fishery.

Leisters for salmon illegal, 343; in Tweed, 239.

License of Crown for foreigners to fish, 6; to fish in several fishery, 57; authority to issue, 383; rules as to, 383; provisions as to, 423.

duties, scale of, 427, 461; notice before duties in force, 385; grant of, for rod and line, 424; for fishing weirs, c., 21, 383,421; general, 381-; for public fisheries, 424; production of, 386; penalty for fishing without, 385; mortgage of duties, 381; servants of licensee assisting, 424; penalty for fishing by unlicensed means, 426; fishery board varying scale, 427; variation by bye-law, lo; addition to, for improvements, 454; proof of legality of scale of, 458; forfeiture of, on second conviction, 401; using in â wrong part of district, 424, 426; bye-law to settle form of, 440. Lights, fishing with, for salmon, trout, or char, 343. ii; HP, putting in fishery, 87; in sjil-mon fisheries, 417; Scot.), VM; (Irel.), 274.

Local fisheries in Scot. 24i. Locality lands, fishery in Scot. 191. Lobsters, right to Scot.), 167; close time for, 167.

Mackerel fishery; see Sea fishing.

Magna Charta, provision as to several fisheries in sea, 20; power of Crown restrained by, 20-22; evidence of grant before, 61, 104, 105, 389; provision of, as to weirs, 35; no application in Scot. 172.

Malicious injuries, to fisherj', 87, 417; to salmon fishery, 417.

Manor, fishery in, 68; common of fishery in, 54, 56.

Mesh, legal, for salmon nets, 344; variation by bye-law, 41'0; none fixed for sea, 495.

Mills, j)ower to enter and inspect, 361, 382, 437; race; see Mill race; waste races at, fishing in, 419; bye-laws to place gratings at, 410, 456.

Mill dams; see Dams.

Mill race; angling in, 340, 419; fixed engine in, 349; grating at, 440, 456; gratings by bye-law, 440.

Mortgage of license duties, 381.

Mouths of rivers, prohibiting nets at, 4-10; gratings at, 456.

Miisselfisheries; see Oysters; order to create, 471; steiding in Scot. 169, 481, 512.

Navigable river, fishing in, 32.

Navigation dams, fishing in, 350, 357, 360; gratings for channels, 351.

Nets, no restriction of mesli in sea fisliing, 496; drift and seine-nets in sea, 490-7; drying on shore, 20; fixed nets in river, 11; of trespassers not distrainable at common law, 98; using with anchors, stakes, dice., 316, 317; size and mesh for salmon, 344; using nets behind each other, 345; using within 100 yards of another, 41"; license for movable, 424, 126, 161; length and size regulated by bye-laws, 439; mesh altered by bye-laws, 440; marks and labels of, 4-40; prohibition of, at mouths of rivers, 4 io; for fish other than salmon, 440; landing, 439; for eels, 417, 440; search of, by water bailiff, 436; seizure of, at night, 438; stop and beating, 347; haaf, 347; in close time, 403; hang-nets, legality of, 413; length of, 439; draft-nets, length of, 439, 461.

If ets (Scot.) net and coble fishing for salmon, 183; illegal nets, 179, 182; use of shore for, 187, 188; meshes of, 194, 312; in trout fishing, 212; seizing, 218.

(Irel.) sea nets, 254, 496; fixed, 325, 326; used at night, 271, 334; in rivers and mouths of rivers, 272; mesh, 273; at free gaps, 329.

Wight fishing, poaching by, 73, 79; ajipreheuding persons, 438; in inland waters, may be prohibited, 441; in Irel., 271, 334; see Lights.

Nomination paper for voting, 431; form of, 458.

Notice, before alteration of fishery district, 413; before altering numbers of conservators, 415; of appointment of board by clerk of peace, 415; before variation of license duties, 427; before election of members, 431; before bye-laws, 442; of objection to bye-laws, 442; to miller, of fish pass to be erected, 359.

Obstructions, of passage of fish, abating, 96; general penalty for, 444; of free gap, 362; to deter salmon, 418; increasing, 444; of fish pass, 357, 419, 446; of inspection of dams, 435, 454; of flow of water, 393.

Obstructing, water bailiff, 435; in-spect)rs, 454.

Oceupler, definition of, 411; of fishery, ex officio conservator, 428.

Offences on sea coast, 365; third conviction for, 401.

Offenders; see Poaching.

Otters, defined, 412; illegal, 343.

Officers, of army or navy poaching, 83; sea fishery, 464.

Open sea; see Sea.

Owner, definition of, 402, 395; of fishery, an ex officio conservator, 428. of fixed engines certified by commissioners, 390.

Oysters, grant of fishery, 475; corporation property in, 93; navigating near, 92; order for fishery of, 472; inquiry by inspector as to, 473; effect of grant of order, 476; conditions of grant, 478; close season as to, 496; protection of beds of, 481; limits of fishery to be marked out, 486; contiguous fisheries, 484; Scot.) stealing, 168, 482; Irel.) not subject to Sea Fisheries Act, 471.

Parr in Scot. 511.

Passage of salmon, obstructing without lawful authority over weirs, 350, 358, 391, 419, 362, 444, 446; deterring at weirs, 419; in close time, 418.

Penalties, how recovered, 365, 456 j application of, 456, 371, 404; for exportation of salmon, 371; minimum, 402.

Personating voters, 434.

Pickled salmon, proof as to, 423.

Pilchard fishing, 28, 490.

Poaching fisli, 73; near dwelling-house, 73, 74; elsewhere, 73, 74, 76; if manual possession necessary, 76; several times on one day, 77; who may prosecute, 77; arresting, 77, 124; seizing implements, 79, 125; abettors of, 81; mode of prosecuting, 81; claim of right by, 83, 130, 348, 509; penalties for, 83; officers of army and navy, 83; right of property in fish, 85, 130; angkr, 122; by Ilijrlt, 43S.

Poaching Scot.) salmon, 205; by niplit, 201'; apprehondini, 207; seizing nets, 203; of trout, 213, 217, apprelumuling, 21'J, 221.

Poinling of trout in Scot. 212.

Poisoning tisheries, 87, 88, 311, 342. Pokf-ncts in Solway, 318. Pollution; see Poisoning. Pond, tisli in, who entitled to, 2; larceny of fish in, 71, 73; malicious injuries to, 87, 88. Possession, of salmon for sale in annual close season, 422; of fish roe, 341, 405; of unclean sahnon, or trout or char, 352, 405; of young of salmon, 353; of trout or char, 423; of illegal instruments for fishing, 343, 438. Prescription Act as to dams, 392. Pririlegi'd fixed engines, 389; see

Fi. red engines. Procedure, under Salmon Fisheries Acts, 457; against poachers, 77; Scot.) 208; (Irel.) 280. Production, of fishing license, 386. Profit a prendre, fishery a, 57. Property in fish at connton law, 70; in poached fish, 85; in fish angled, 130. Proprietors divided into ujiper and lower in Scot. 194, 311â 317. Prosecutor of poachers, 77; under Salmon rishcrics Acts, not entitled to whole penalty, 45fi. Public, right of, to fish in sea and tidal rivers, 14, 101, 475, 49G; setting up, as defence, 347, 318; losing right of fishery, 19, 100; dedication of fishery to, 110, 129; no right of angling. 119, 121; fishermen may elect representative members of board, 429; license to fish, 424. Putchers, for salmon are fixed engines, 311; removal during close time, 355; to be covci'ed during weekly close time, 356. Putts; see Patcher.

Quarter sessions, 373; appeal to, 4(16; aijpointing conservators, 373, 374.

Quo warranto docs not Vw. to try right of fishery, 96.

Pace; see Mill race,

Paise-nets, 318.

Rateahility of fishery, 88, 428;

Irel.) 250, 265; Scot.) 319. Pemedies; sec Action, Penalty. Pebuilding dams without fish pass, 445. Bepair of fish pass, 360, 415. Repeal of old Acts, niischlicf of, 306; by Act 1873, 458; by Sea

Fisheries Act, 505. Representative members of fishery board, 429. Return, annual, by secretary of board to home secretary, 456. Returning officer, in election of conservator's, definition of, 412; duties of, 433; expenses of, 433; penalty on, for neglect, 434. Riparian owners, in private rivers, 2, 108; in navigable rivers, 16; right to make weirs, 31; opposite owners, 108; right to angle, 120; as to trout, 211, 213; as to angling, 223; rights as to obstruction of water, 393; ex officio conservators, 428. River, right of fishery in, 1, 3, 109; public navigable, 3, 32; riparian owners, 3; clearing bed of, 95; angling in, 119; poisoning, 136; definition of, 373; salmon river, what, 373; altering bed of, at free gaps, 362. Rod and line, definition of, 411, 412; using as snatch, 3 H. Rod; see Angling; close season for, 354, 439; 'definition of, 111, 412; of poacher, when scizable, 79, 435; of angler, 125; forfeiture of, 353, 354, 4-03, 419; of angler Scot.) 227. Roe; see Fish roe. Royal fish, in sea. 25; Scot.) 165.

Sale of fish in open market, 26, 44; under sea fishery convention, 503; of salmon, trout, and char roe, 314; of salmon in close time, 422; of trout and char in close time, 423; of unseasonable salmon, 352; of young salmon, 353.

Salmon, definition, 340; poaching of, 73â 87; angling, 132; Acts relating to, 339; poisoning salmon river, 341; fixed engines for, 345, 387; illegal instruments for, 343; roe of, 344; catching at dams, 343; gratings for, 351; unseasonable, 352; young of, 353; close time for, 354; weekly close time, 356; fish passes for, 349, 357; gratings for, 351; free gaps for, 361; fish boxes, construction of, 363; exportation of, 370, 405; fishery districts for, 373; special commissioners for, 388; imprisonment for offences as to, 401; artificial propagation, 344, 352, 353, 403, 405; minimum penalties for, 402; illegal fishing by night, 437; water bailiffs, powers as to fishermen, 435; bye-laws to regulate, 439.

Scale of licenses; see Licenses.

Scientific inquiries; see Artificial propagation.

Scotland, open sea fisheries, 165; territorial seas and navigable rivers, 165; common law as to other fish than salmon, 165, 510; fishery defined, 172; right to salmon at common law, 172, 510; must be derived from Crown, 174; mode of fishing, 176; old statutes as to salmon, 177; net and come fishing, 183; right of fisher to use banks and shore, 187; boundaries of fisheries, 188; remedies, 189; fishery in lake, 191.

Salmon Act of 1862, 193, 509; fishery districts, 194; commissioners, 194, 311, 315; annual close time, 195; weekly close time, 195, 312; offences as to salmon, 196, 313; salmon roe.

198, 315; district boards, 200, 317; powers of, 201, 318; assessments by, 202; seizure of forfeited articles, 203, 320; poaching by night, 204, 320; poachers of salmon, 205; apprehending poachers, 207; procedure, 208.

Scotland, trout and fresh-water fishing, 211; common law as to trout, 211; fishing trout with nets, 212; right of fishing, 213; legal modes of fishing trout, 214; right of tenants to fish, 215; no close time as to trout, 217; trespassers who poach, 217; nets of trout poachers, 219; apprehending trout poachers, 219; procedure, 221.

angling, generally, 223; for salmon, 223; close time for, 224; using salmon roe, 225; selling salmon angled, 225; title to trout fishery, 225; angling for trout, 226; angling from highway, 227; trout angling as regards salmon, 228; angling as between opposite owners, 229; Tweed, 231; Solway, 243.

Sea Fisheries Act extends to, 491.

Sea, fishery in, 1, 5; how regulated, 6, 14; whale fishing, 6; no restrictions as to sea fish, 10; convention with France as to, 442; herring and mackerel boats used in, 406; definition of sea fish, 463.

Search, of bags and baskets of fishermen, 436; of boats and nets, 435; of sea fishery boats, 365.

Search warrant to enter suspected premises, 364.

Secretary of state, definition of, 412; appointment of inspectors, 364; approving fish pass in dams, 349, 357, 451; no power as to free gaps, 361; approving scale of licenses, 383; altering fishpury districts, 413; combining districts, 414; approving variation of scale of licenses, 427; confirmation of bye-laws, 442; approving fish pass in new weirs, 419; autbo-rizing ('(Hiipulsory purcliase of weirs,-l l-f!; utilhorizing jmrfliae of bank of river, 44cs; aiiiroviii; existing tislj pass, 451; annual return sent to, 458. Seine-net, iisbing for sahnon witliin llto yards of anotber, 417; in sea fisliing, 4'JO; in coast of Cornwall, l'JO. Seiziny illegal engines in suspected places, 3U4; at night, 438. Servants of licensee of nets assisting, 426. Set-lines for trout in Scot. 212. Several lisbery, what, 4, 46; definition, 49; in sea and public rivers, 17, 389; if can be re-granted by Crown, 18, 389; soil of, 49, fil; if can be followed into new channel, 393; burden of proving, 103; ancient user, 103, 389; remedies for obstructing, 110; right of owner to general license, 385. Severn, weirs in, 453. Shell-fish, right to take, 91; (Scot.) 167. Shore, right of fishermen to use, 29; (Scot.) 187; (Irel.) 253. Sin of fish boxes, 363. Sluices of mill dams, shutting, 360; fi. ibing near, 420. Snare for catching salmon, trout, or char, 31. Snatch in sahnon fishing, what, 343; definition of, 412. Soil, in several fishery, 49, 60; in free fishery, 53. Solwai fisheries, 243, 512. Sjiau'u of salmon, 344, 354; Scot.) 196; Irel.)-in. Sj aivntii(fish, disturbance of, 353; catching for artificial propagation, 352, 353, 403. Spears illegal for killing salmo! i, trout, or char, 3-43; Tweed, 239; Irel.) 270. Special commissioners; see Com- ? nlssioners. Spur walls to fishing weirs, 363. Sleali)ig iish, 70; see Foachiny.

Stop-nets in Wye, c., legality, 317; stoi)ping-nets, 347.

Stokehall, in salmon fishing, prohibited, 31'3; definition of, 412.

Stream-nets in Solway, 348.

Sunday, angling salmon on, 133; mill sluices to be shut on, 360; to be part of weekly close time, 439; angling on Scot.) 197; Tweed, 235; Irel.) 279.

Tackle; see Sod and line.

Tall race of mill, fishing in, 31-9; gratings may be made in, 44, 454; Irel.) 270, 272.

Tenant of lands entitled to fishery, 67; Scot.) 215, 511.

Territorial seas, what, 5; as to sea fishing in Scot.) 165; Irel.) 27.

Thames, acts as to, 509.

Tidal waters, deimd, 340; fishing-in, 14, 101.

Tlfjie of fish, rateable, 69.

Trammel-net used, 345.

Traivl-Jishlvq allowed in sea, 490; not to approach seine-nets, 496.

Traversing lands by bailiffs, 436.

Trespassers, fishing, *sec Poachers*; distraining nets of, 98; angling, 120, 125; *see Angling*.

Trout or char, fishing for, with lights, spears, *c.*, 34-3, 404; using roe as bait, 344, 404; taking unseasonable, 352; catching in close time, 405; sale of, in close time, 423; apprehension of night fishers, 437; no restriction as to catching in rivers not in fishery district, 405, 423; for scientific purposes, 343, 353, 415. Twerf fisheries generally, 231, 512; commissioners and officers, 232; water bailiffs, 233; annual close time, 234; weekly close time, 235; selling fish in close time, 235; removal of boats and nets in close time, 236; fixed nets and dams, 237; beating the wati'r, 238; stake and bag-nets, 238; size of mesh of nets, 238; pout-nets.

or rake-hooks, 239; wear shot-nets, 231; leisters and spears, 239; poisonhig river, 239; poachers, 240; foul or unseasonable fish, 240; cleeks, 240; trout fishers catching salmon, 241; destroying spawn, 241; salmon roe, 241; three or more poaching by night, 241; procedure, 242; Tweed not included in English Salmon Acts, 339.

Unclean salmon, 352; trout or char, 352; taking for artificial propagation, 352; (*Scol*) 196; Tweed, 240; (*Irel.*) 274.

Unseasonable; *see Unclean*.

Unsizeable; *see Young*.

Use and occupation of fishery, action for, 67.

User, ancient, how proved, 102, 389; grant presumed from, 389; non-user, effect of, 109, 393.

Villagers, claim of, to fish, 115, 117; to dry nets, 29; to angle, 128; (*Scot.*) 187, 227.

Voters for representative members in fishery boards, 429; personating, 434.

Voting papers, 431, 432; form of, 459.

Weirs and obstructions, 435; searching boats used in fishing, 435; searching nets and baskets, 436; is a constable for purpose of Acts, 436; evidence of appointment, 436; special authority for a board to enter on lands, 437; traversing banks of river, 437; has powers of constable, 436; not to enter decoys, 437; may arrest illegal fishers by night, 437; punishment for obstructing, 435, 437.

Water, poisoning, 87, 88, 341, 342; (*Scot.*) 198; (*Irel.*) 274.

Waterworks, gratings at channels, 351.

Weirs; *see also Dam*; right to make, 33; statutes as to, 36; if ancient, are legal, 37; proof of ancient origin, 37; converting brushwood into stone weir, 39; action by upper proprietor against lower for, 40; illegal at common law if stop fish, 41, 43; eel baskets at, 417; fishing within 100 yards of, 419; rebuilding, 445; compulsory purchase of, 446.

fishing; *see Fishing weir*.

Weekly close time; *see Close time*.

Whale fishing in sea, 68, 11; caught in sea, belong to Crown, 25; (*Scot*) 165.

Wire; *see Snare*.

Waste races of mills, fishing in, 419.

Water bailiff, how appointed, 379; search warrant to enter suspected places, 364; order of justices to enter on lands, 381; may examine

Young fish in sea, statutes as to, repealed, 508; of salmon defined, 340; penalty for taking, 353; exemption for artificial propagation, 353, 403.

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